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THE TIMES

THURSDAY JULY 28 1983

20p

No 61,596

TOMORROW

Nuclear... Ireland's bishops confer on nuclear weapons

...test England versus New Zealand. John Woodcock reports on the first day of the second Test

Box... Clare Dyer examines the traumas facing children in the witness box

...of dates Peter Nichols looks at the dilemma facing Italians trying to establish Mussolini's date of birth

Your man... Capital punishment and MP's pay: a full list of how every MP voted in all the divisions

...in Havana Central America: an illustrated guide to what is happening in President Reagan's backyard

Reagan fails to silence critics

President Reagan's televised statement that the United States is not heading for a Vietnam situation in Central America has failed to satisfy Democratic critics of his policies. They say he should call off the forthcoming armed forces manoeuvres in the region page 6

Laker move

The Laker Airways' liquidator is likely to apply to the Lords for leave to appeal against a ruling preventing an anti-trust action against British Airways and British Caledonian page 2

Nudist centres

The Greek Government has tabled a bill which would allow the establishment of nudist centres in secluded hotels and camping sites. The bill is opposed by the Orthodox Church page 6

Rail threat

Union leaders are threatening industrial action on the railways unless British Rail drops a plan to close 1,000 jobs page 2

Shipyard loss

British shipbuilders announced a loss for 1982-83 of £138m and confirmed that 9,000 jobs would be cut over two years as part of a package of emergency measures page 2

Arabs protest

Fifty Arab students were injured in a series of demonstrations throughout the occupied West Bank in protest against the attack on Herbron University when three students were killed page 6

Pits to close

Mr Ian MacGregor will introduce a programme for closing unprofitable pits shortly after he takes over as chairman on September 1. The National Coal Board confirmed page 15

Pershing fails

A Pershing 2 missile exploded 70 seconds after being launched on a test flight from Cape Canaveral. Pershings are due to be based in West Germany. Senate supports MX page 7

Midland double

Midland Bank launched a £155m rights issue at the same time as reporting a 43 per cent increase in pre-tax profits for the first six months of the year page 15

Piggott ban

Lester Piggott was suspended for five days by the stewards at Goodwood for careless riding on Vancare in the Richmond Stakes. The ban is for August 5. Page 22

Leader page 13 Letters: On fairness for all, from Mr H. Hodgkinson, and Mr F. Bennett; Labour's future, from Mr D. Freedman; Engineering Council, from Dr K. Miller

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Stock Exchange reforms may end legal action

By Philip Robinson and Jonathan Clare

The Government yesterday said it would call off the legal action against the Stock Exchange in return for reforms which will alter the way stocks and shares are bought and sold in Britain.

But the moves will increase the powerful financial institutions in the City which invest millions through the Stock Exchange every year. One leading institution said the reforms go no further than those recommended by Sir Harold Wilson in his report on the City two years ago.

The Government's action comes after four years of legal preparation, costing £3m in fees. It is a turnaround on the Government's policy, justified partly by an EEC directive, which will mean some other parts of the Exchange's rule book could be changed to be incorporated in new laws.

The Opposition will demand a full debate on the matter when the House resumes in October. Yesterday, Mr Ian Wigglesworth, SDP MP for Stockton South, Cleveland, said: "The out-of-court settlement between the Stock Exchange and the Government makes mockery of the Tories' advocacy of greater competition."

Mr Peter Archer, Labour MP for Warley West in the West Midlands, slammed the concessions offered by the Stock Exchange as "cosmetic and mischievous".

His proposals came after years of "shutting the door to

change, opposing the Office of Fair Trading, and resisting court proceedings".

"The Government has sold out to its City friends who are helping them to sell off public assets at knock-down prices", he said.

The Stock Exchange proposes to phase out minimum charges for buying and selling shares over three years; to allow non-Exchange members to sit on its ruling council; to establish an appeal body which will listen to those whose membership has been rejected; and to allow non-Exchange members to serve as directors on Stock Exchange firms, providing members remain in the majority.

Minimum charges will be phased out by 1986. This will lead to cheaper rates for big deals in Government stocks but the small investor may find his dealings more expensive in the short term.

The membership changes will come in over the next two months and will need a vote from all Stock Exchange members.

All changes are now being made under the eye of the Bank of England and the Department of Trade and Industry. Officials hinted yesterday that both bodies are likely to get more involved with the Stock Exchange rule book.

The Stock Exchange will apply for an adjournment of the Restrictive Practices case today. It is likely that the OFT will argue against such a delay. It

has a legal obligation to enforce existing law.

Sir Gordon Borrie, the OFT director-general, is expected to make a statement afterwards. The OFT has said nothing publicly so far. Privately, it is angered and puzzled by the Government's change of heart after years of preparing the case.

It is still unclear whether the Government will attempt to exempt the Stock Exchange by making a Parliamentary Order or by passing a special Bill. Officials will decide during the recess which would be most appropriate.

Sir Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange chairman, welcomed the Secretary of State's proposals last night, but said he could not comment further.

Professor Jim Gower, company adviser on company law to the Department of Trade and Industry, who is reviewing what protection Britain offers to its investors, said: "Providing this is the first and not the last step, it is in the right direction."

However, the big institutions such as insurance companies are furious that the Government is allowing the Stock Exchange to phase out minimum commissions over three years.

Institutional investors argue that the Restrictive Practices Court is designed to protect consumers and the case should have gone ahead.

City Editor, page 15
A timid step, page 19

FT gives up hope of NGA talks

By Paul Routledge

Labour Editor

Management at the *Financial Times* last night decided to begin the battle for republication of the newspaper without the labour of 22 striking members of the National Graphical Association (NGA), which now risks expulsion from the TUC for rejecting an independent mediator's peace plan.

Mr Alan Hare, chairman of the FT, has written to general secretaries of all the unions involved in producing the paper, which has been off the streets since June 1, asking for their support in a publishing initiative designed to bypass the NGA.

The company welcomed the TUC General Council's decision formally to "advise" the craft print union to accept the Advisory, Conciliation and

Arbitration Service (Acas) mediator's recommendations, but added: "Trade union procedures do not readily lend themselves to the speedy solution which this strike demands."

"In these circumstances we are forced to conclude that normal negotiating procedures have been exhausted and that there is no acceptable basis on which we can resume talks with the NGA."

Mr Hare went on: "We have to find other ways of restarting publication of the newspaper. One way of doing this is for the unions other than the NGA - to cooperate with us in producing the paper, starting with the international edition in Frankfurt, to be followed later by the rest of production in Bracken House."

The FT chairman has written to these unions - chiefly Sogat 32, the National Union of Journalists, the electricians' union EEPFU and the engineering union AUEW - inviting their general secretaries to a meeting "to discuss this alternative".

Continued on back page, col 4

Freeze out Militant local parties told

By Philip Webster and Richard Evans

To the fury of the far left, the Labour Party acted yesterday to freeze the Militant Tendency out of the party's affairs.

Following up the expulsion last February of the five leading members of Militant, Labour's national executive committee, instructed the party at all levels to deny the Trotskyist organization any facilities.

The aim is to stop the Militant newspaper being sold at party meetings; to prevent the organization using party premises; its supporters being invited to speak at party meetings, and collections at party gatherings.

Militant will be denied facilities at the party conference and constituency parties will be told not to place orders with the Cambridge Heath Press, which prints Militant.

The decision was one of a series imposed at the NEC yesterday on the far left by the centre right soft left majority and one which the right, in particular, was anxious to pass before the party conference in the autumn when elections could swing the NEC back towards the left.

The action, which was proposed by Mr Denis Howell, a right-wing MP, and backed by 14 votes to eight, with Mr Michael Foot in support, had been in preparation for some time but the right had held its hand to preserve unity before the general election. Mr Neil Kinnock was not present for the vote.

Mr Howell said last night that the decision was aimed at implementing last year's conference decision that membership of Militant was incompatible with membership of the Labour Party. But it was strongly opposed inside the NEC by the left, with Mr Wedgwood Benn stating that the proposal was unwelcome and certain to be resisted by the constituency parties.

Mr Dennis Skinner said last night that the right-wing had not learnt any lessons. They had thought wrongly that

expelling Militant would help win the election. It was ridiculous that a newspaper representing certain socialist views was to be banned from the party conference while the right-wing Tory press was to be on display and would be sold.

The proposed ineffectual defeat was postponed until a special meeting on September 12, again to the anger of the left, which wanted an immediate discussion in which it planned to attack the role of the right in running the campaign and the controversial intervention of the former Prime Minister, Mr James Callaghan, in the nuclear debate.

The NEC also decided, on a recommendation from Mr James Mortimer, the party

general secretary, to end for an experimental period the practice of giving official press briefings after meetings. The left had opposed the move, saying that one press conference would be succeeded by a series of them, with the individual members giving their own private accounts.

Mr Peter Taaffe, editor of Militant, said last night that the NEC action proved the party was carrying out a witchhunt, but it would not work. "The paper will continue to be sold and we will double and triple sales as a result of this action."

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what is going on. It estimates that it would require 50,000 inspectors, working 24 hours a day for three months a year, to keep a comprehensive check.

Standards for keeping a check on production are described as "vague" and offering "considerable latitude". The report highlights the predicament of the local agent of a production association, working on an hourly fee with no job security who has to keep on good relations with his neighbours and who can thus be put under intense pressure to send in wrong reports.

It also underlines the way in which political and trade union bodies employ people close to them in order to draw up returns.

Competition between different political groups which run the producer organizations means that growers join the body which pay out quickest after the fewest checks.

A whole range of modern technology is suggested to help control production of the olive trees. Already an aerial photography survey is being carried out and the hope is that there will be photographic census of every olive tree in Italy by 1987.



Over the top: A Portuguese anti-terrorist policeman scales the Turkish Embassy wall and (below) one of the Armenian gunmen who died in the attack.

Five Armenian gunmen killed in Lisbon raid

From Peter Collis, Lisbon

Five terrorists were killed after raiding the Turkish Embassy and residence in Lisbon yesterday. The wife of the Turkish charge d'affaires was also killed and a policeman and several people were wounded.

The terrorists are understood to have blown themselves up when their assault misfired.

Accounts of the attacks were still confused last night but according to eye witnesses, a five-man suicide group drove up to the embassy at around 11am in a rented car and tried to force their way into the building firing automatic weapons.

But they were driven back by the fire of an embassy security guard. One terrorist died in the gunfight and a Portuguese policeman was wounded.

The terrorists then forced their way into the adjacent embassy residence building taking the charge d'affaires wife and her 17-year-old son hostage.

At 11.30am Lisbon police received a telephone call from the terrorists threatening to blow up the building if the police intervened. Soon afterwards a blast shattered the first floor of the residence, and after an interval the badly wounded wife of the charge d'affaires and her son, who was also hurt, were taken out of the smoking building by Portuguese security forces.

She died on her way to hospital, but her son was reported to be out of danger.

British-trained special anti-terrorist police stormed the building and found five charred bodies, according to a police statement.

A statement in English, signed by the Armenian Revolutionary Army, and left in a Lisbon park, claimed responsibility for the attacks.

"We have decided to blow up this building and bury ourselves under the rubble. This is not suicide, nor an expression of insanity, but rather our sacrifice for freedom."

"Our resolve to have recourse to violence is the result of the refusal of the Turkish state and the powers supporting it to heed to the justful (sic) and peaceful demands of the Armenian people," the statement said.

● Terror Campaign: The attack was part of a terrorist campaign by Armenian nationalists to avenge what they call the holocaust of Armenians in the Ottoman empire during the First World War. In 1915, the Turkish Government - the Kaiser's ally - rounded up the Christian Armenians and slaughtered hundreds of thousands. Armenian nationalists claim that 1.5 million of their compatriots were massacred.

The Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (Asala) has been trying to force the Turkish Government to admit the massacres and to restore the genocide. Using terrorist tactics, they also hope to recover their ancestral lands in Anatolia. The homeland claimed by the nationalists straddles the borders between eastern Turkey and Russia.

Asala launched its current terrorist campaign, intended to focus world attention on the 1915 Armenian holocaust, with the murder of the Turkish consul-general in Los Angeles in 1973. Since then Armenian gunmen have killed 28 Turkish diplomats in Western Europe, Canada and Australia.

● ANKARA: The Turkish Foreign Ministry yesterday condemned the Lisbon attack and offered thanks to the Portuguese security forces for their "self-sacrificing efforts" in dealing with the attackers.

£670m cuts total revealed

By Julian Haviland

Political Editor

Programmes to the gross value of £670m are to be cut in the current year to achieve the net saving of at least £500m sought by the Treasury.

Mr Peter Rees, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, roused loud indignation from the Opposition yesterday when he announced this piece of Treasury arithmetic, which had remained unrevealed since the first announcement of the cuts by the Chancellor of the Exchequer three weeks ago.

In a statement so brief that Mr Peter Shore, Labour's senior Treasury spokesman, was even more upset, Mr Rees explained that the effect of lower cash limits and consequently tighter budgeting was that departments were now likely to underspend by less than the amount for which the Treasury had originally allowed.

Detailed tables published in a written answer showed that reductions in cash-limited expenditure total £589m; savings on drugs prescribed in the National Health Service will be worth £25m; and the financing limits for the nationalized industries have been reduced by £58m.

Within the 2 per cent total reduction in nationalized industries' financing, the British Gas Corporation, which on Tuesday

Pay review penalizes strikers

By John Witherow

The Prime Minister yesterday announced an independent pay review body for nurses and other professional medical workers which included a clause to exclude any of those workers who went on strike.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher spelt this out in a Commons written reply, saying that the Government recognized that the "great majority of staff in these groups have not engaged in industrial action."

"Accordingly, the Govern-

ment must reserve the right to exclude from the scope of the review body recommendations any groups that do resort to industrial action," she said.

Downing Street thought this was the first time such a clause had been included in the terms of pay review bodies, although a spokesman said it was "implicit" in the doctors' and dentists' review body.

The "no strike" agreement aroused considerable opposition among Labour MPs and

unions. Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, Labour spokeswoman on Health, described it as the "final betrayal of our health service staff."

Miss Ada Maddocks, national health officer of Nalco, said: "It is a blackmail, pure and simple. By imposing these conditions on pay awards, the Government is seeking to hamstring the trade unions in doing their job of looking after their members' interests." Mr

Continued on back page, col 6

Gibraltar dockyard reprieved

By Rodney Cowton

Defence Correspondent

The Government has agreed to postpone for a year its planned closure of the Royal Naval Dockyard at Gibraltar.

The dockyard will now close on December 31, 1984, and will then immediately reopen as a commercial ship repair yard under the management of A & P Appleford International, British company, acting as agents for the Gibraltar authorities.

This was announced yesterday in the Commons by Mr Ian Stewart, Under-Secretary of State for Defence Procurement. He also announced a number of measures to support the dockyard during the early years of commercial activity.

The land and assets for the commercial ship repair yard will be handed over free to the Gibraltar authorities and up to £28m will be provided to meet the initial cost of conversion, working capital and operating losses, if any, in the first two years. This will be conditional on assurances of new working practices being obtained.

Closing prices service partly restored

The Times today resumes a limited listing of Stock Exchange closing prices on page 18. Last week's computer failure has been repaired sufficiently to print a partial table.

Computer staff are working to restore the full stock market listings, including Wall Street, and unit trust prices, as soon as possible. But the computer cannot yet tabulate the normal range of financial information.

We apologize for the temporary suspension of the full prices service.

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Aspinall claims experts agreed killer tigress fence was high enough

Mr John Aspinall told Canterbury Crown Court yesterday that he sought the advice of the world's leading animal safety experts before designing the tiger house at his zoo and the owner of the world's largest open zoo had told him that 10ft was ample height for fences.

His zoo company, Howlett and Port Lympne Estates, denies two summonses alleging failure to ensure the safety of employees after two keepers were killed by tigers.

Mr Brian Stocks and Mr Robert Wilson were mauled by Zeya, a Siberian tigress, at Howlett's Zoo nr Canterbury, Kent, in 1980.

The prosecution, brought by the Health and Safety Executive, alleges that the company broke safety regulations by allowing Mr Stocks to enter Zeya's enclosure alone.

Mr Wilson died five weeks later after Zeya scaled a 10ft 2in partition fence to attack him. The prosecution claims that one fence was too low for safety.

Mr Aspinall told the court that he took full responsibility for the running of the zoo, which he had originally set up 20 years ago as a private zoo with a tiger, a monkey and two Himalayan bears.

When the zoo opened to the public eight years ago, he said that he had sought the advice of Dr Al Deming, owner of a 2,000-acre game park in Alberta, Canada.

"I asked him about partitioning fences for tigers and he said that 10ft was ample as long as it was made of a firm structure", Mr Aspinall said.

He said that other experts had told him of 8ft thorn fences which African tribesmen used to pen lions. Siberian tigers, the biggest and heaviest of all the cats, would be expected to be poor jumpers, he said. "The heavier the animal the less high it can jump."

Even after the death of Mr Stocks, the adequacy of the fence was not doubted, Mr Aspinall said. "I thought the fence was efficient. It never occurred to any of the experts that the fences were too low."

He added that Mr Stocks was "very brave, very intelligent, very responsible and very cautious", and that Mr Wilson was "an excellent keeper".

Earlier Mr John Mathew, QC, for Mr Aspinall, had told the jury that there was no evidence Mr Stock had entered Zeya's enclosure alone.

Indeed, Mr Aspinall had said that only 10 days before his death Mr Stocks had warned him that Zeya's behaviour was getting worse and worse.

Mr Mathew said: "It was agreed that on no account should anybody go into that compound until Zeya was safely locked away."

It was possible, he said, that Mr Stocks had secured Zeya in the adjoining enclosure before entering its compound to check

its cub and that the tigress leapt the fence on that occasion, also. If that was possible he said, then the first allegation, that the zoo allowed its keepers to enter the big cat compounds alone would not be supported.

The case was "really all about the fences" and the prosecution expert witness had criticized it "with hindsight only", Mr Mathew said.

Mr Aspinall said that he had been in the habit of entering tiger enclosures alone for "about 23 or 24 years - ever since I acquired my first tiger".

"I go every Sunday in the afternoon to visit them, to reacquaint myself with them, to see them, feel them and play with them", he said.

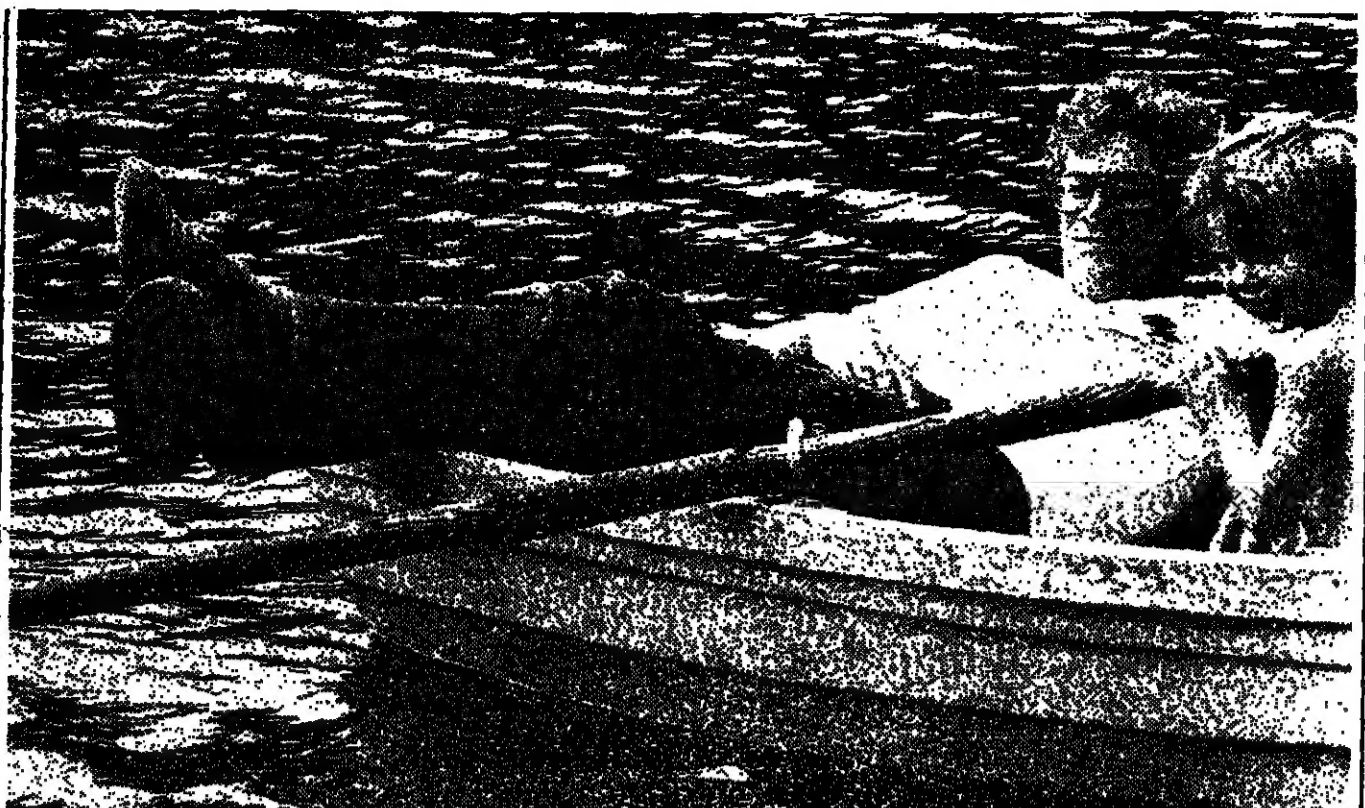
Mr Aspinall said that in broad principle he did not believe in destroying killer animals.

"After Brian's death I was a little confused. I had an argument with Brian that if we were killed, either of us, by a tiger, that tiger should not be shot."

"We were thinking of not betraying the trust of animals. If we got killed through misinterpreting their moods or through misjudgment on our part, it would be unfair to kill the animal."

A breeding Siberian tigress was rare and valuable, Mr Aspinall said. But after the second killing, he himself had shot Zeya.

The hearing continues today.



The easy way: Peter Bird, the single-handed Pacific rower, relaxing with his nephew, Andrew, aged five, on the Serpentine in Hyde Park, after he returned to London yesterday.

Mr Bird, a photographer from London, set out in August last year from San Francisco to be the first person to row alone across the Pacific. Last month his boat was wrecked on

Australia's Great Barrier Reef. He said yesterday: "There is no doubt in my mind that I completed the crossing. The reef is part of Australia." (Photographer: David Cairns).

Iraqi role in clashes questioned

From Tina Jones Cardiff

The National Union of Students is urging Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to order an investigation into the involvement of Iraqi Embassy diplomats in fighting which has broken out in British Universities.

Students have compiled reports on the activities of the Ba'athist National Union of Iraqi Students (NUIS), painting a picture of spying, intimidation, violence, stabbings and beatings. Many student leaders believe that a campaign against the Moslem Iraqi Students' Society (ISS) is being orchestrated by agents at the Iraqi Embassy.

Iron bars, metal window frames and house bricks were used as weapons in a battle between the two groups in Cardiff last weekend. ISS said its members had gathered to protest against the "veiled robbery" of jewellery on the pretext of voluntary contributions to the war effort against Iran.

Miss Clarissa Roberts, the NUIS overseas students officer, said: "We are very concerned over the activities of certain people at the Iraqi Embassy and we are waiting for Sir Geoffrey to reply to our letter."

A diplomat at the Embassy said: "It is ridiculous to suggest that I, or anyone else, is concerned in spying activities."

Barrister loses final battle with the taxman over clothes

By Richard Evans

Miss Ann Mallalieu, the barrister who has been engaged in a lengthy legal battle with the taxman over her right to claim tax relief on the black clothes she has to wear in court, lost her case in the Lords yesterday.

By a four-to-one majority, the Law Lords allowed an appeal by the Inland Revenue and ruled that Miss Mallalieu's working wardrobe of black dresses, black suits, tight, black shoes, white shirts and blouses.

The lawyer, aged 36, whose case was backed by the Bar Council, had successfully claimed in the High Court and Court of Appeal that relief should be granted because her "dull and dowdy" clothes were used exclusively for work, and she would not dream of wearing them outside.

But in a judgment which could have far reaching implications in the tax field, Lord Brightman said that the taxman had been more than entitled to conclude that Miss

Mallalieu's object in buying the clothes was both professional and personal, and not exclusively professional. "I myself would have found it impossible to reach any other conclusion", he said.

The judge added that while Miss Mallalieu undoubtedly thought only of the requirements of her profession when she had her "subdued" clothing replaced or cleaned, she needed clothes to travel to work and wear at work, "and I think it is inescapable that one object, though not a conscious motive, was the provision of the clothing that she needed as a human being".

If Miss Mallalieu had won, Lord Brightman added, it would have been open to every self-employed person to set against his income the cost of the upkeep of a complete wardrobe of clothes, so long as he or she reserved the clothes strictly for work.

The clothing in question consisted of "perfectly ordinary articles of apparel which many ladies wear from choice".

To claim tax relief she had to establish that the money spent was "wholly and exclusively" for the purposes of her profession.

Lord Diplock, Lord Keith of Kinkel and Lord Roskill agreed that the appeal should be allowed. Lord Elwyn-Jones was the lone dissenter.

The Inland Revenue was worried that judgment against it would have led to thousands of applications for tax allowances on clothes worn to meet professional requirements.

But after yesterday's decision it is feared that the Inland Revenue will be able to crack down on a wide area of tax relief by all professions.

Miss Mallalieu, who was not in the House of Lords to hear the result, said later: "In the same way the Inland Revenue were fearful that if we won they would have thousands of demands from people. I rather fear that a number of people who have claimed happily up to now may find themselves on the end of an inspector who says 'No more - look at this case'."

She said that if the logic of the judgment was taken to the extreme it would mean any claim for tax relief could be disallowed where a claimant enjoyed an incidental benefit as a human being.

For example, tax relief on office rent could be disallowed because the claimant was protected from the elements while inside, and therefore benefited personally.

Miss Mallalieu challenged the Inland Revenue after it refused her claim involving £264 spent on replacing and cleaning her work clothes in the 1977 tax year.

An Inland Revenue spokesman said yesterday: "We do not cry when we lose and we do not crow when we win. Where there is a dispute between us and a taxpayer we do sometimes have to take the matter to the courts to see what the law really is."

He would not speculate on the effect of the judgment on other areas of tax relief. "The ramifications or possible relevance to other matters will have to await consideration of the judgment."

The Inland Revenue has spent several thousand pounds on the case and will have to foot the bill for the appeal. Miss Mallalieu will not face a legal bill.

Sir Arthur Power, secretary of the Bar Council, said yesterday that he was disappointed by the outcome. "I think Ann Mallalieu definitely had a point. We are sorry their Lordships have seen to throw it out."

The first casualties of the decision are likely to be colleagues of Miss Mallalieu. Many have successfully claimed tax relief for their clothes in the past because tax offices have differed in their interpretation of the law.

Law Report, page 8

Commuters' protest may save lavatories

By Rupert Morris

British Rail seems to have beaten a retreat in its attempt to halve the number of lavatories at its 1,000 stations in Britain.

It was reported yesterday that British Rail intended to allow 550 of its station lavatories to collapse over the next 20 years, maintaining and repairing only the 450 at main stations that were seen as essential.

Further inquiries by *The Times* disclosed that the axe had been intended to fall most heavily in the South, where British Rail wanted eventually to get rid of 300 lavatories.

But when the names were divulged - Tunbridge Wells, Weybridge, Virginia Water, Walton-on-Thames and other household names the harassed commuter cried enough.

The regional Transport Users' Consultative Committee told British Rail, Southern Region in April last year that this was quite unacceptable. It has heard nothing since.

British Rail said yesterday: "It is not a closure programme as such. We have identified 550 stations where, if we were starting from scratch, we would not put toilet facilities in."

"There is no point spending money taking them away deliberately. But if there were development at the station, or the toilets needed replacement we would not spend the money."

British Rail spokesmen were inclined to play down the whole story. It was a study which had been undertaken last year. It was only about one page long, and was subject to the agreement of the central and local consultative committees, they said.

The Southern Transport Users' Consultative Committee told British Rail that the proposals would drive large numbers of the public into the arms of the coach operators.

Yesterday it appeared the British Rail had taken that advice to heart, and was having second thoughts.

An apology was read out in the High Court in Liverpool. Mr Reddington was a former chief Superintendent with the Merseyside police force.

Express to pay damages

The *Daily Express* agreed yesterday to pay undisclosed damages and costs to Mr John Reddington, the Assistant Chief Constable of Thames Valley, over an inaccurate report last year about a television series in which Thames Valley officers took part.

An apology was read out in the High Court in Liverpool. Mr Reddington was a former chief Superintendent with the Merseyside police force.

International sea rescue

A Spanish seaman was taken to the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow, after an international rescue in the North Atlantic yesterday.

He was taken off a Spanish trawler 250 miles off the Scottish coast by a Russian factory ship, directed by a RAF Nimrod. After a foot amputation he was picked up by a US Air Force helicopter.

Hostage trial

Two Parkhurst prisoners, James McCaig, aged 27, and John Bowden, aged 26, have been sent for trial to Winchester Crown Court accused of imprisoning and threatening to kill the prison's assistant governor, Mr Gerald Schofield.

£250,000 hijack

Four men hijacked at a gunpoint a Roadline lorry carrying £250,000 of cigarettes outside London Colney, Hertfordshire, on Tuesday. The driver was flagged down by a bogus haulage firm official.

Topless decision

Bournemouth council has decided not to repeal a 50-year-old by-law which prohibits women bathing topless. But it will be enforced only if serious complaints are received.

Football honour

Mr Bob Paisley, who was manager of Liverpool football team for nine years, is to be granted the freedom of the city.

Teachers vote to reject caning

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Nottingham

In a surprise vote yesterday the Professional Association of Teachers defeated a motion favouring corporal punishment in schools, the day before the Government is to publish a consultative paper saying that the cane will be retained.

The decision by the association shows how divided teachers are about the use of the cane in schools. Later, Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the association, which has 23,000 members, said that the vote meant that teachers would support the Government's policy to be announced today that parents be allowed to contract out of corporal punishment for their children.

But he added that the association did not see this as a long-term solution to the debate, which began 18 months ago when the European Court of Human Rights ruled that children could not be beaten without their parents' consent.

Britain is the only remaining European country which allows corporal punishment in schools.

Mr Dawson, who as the former headmaster of Eitham Green School in south London, used the cane and who supports abolition, said: "This consultative document is the first step towards abolition. It is unthinkable that some children will not be beaten because their parents have produced a piece of paper while others will because theirs have not."

The motion was defeated by 70 votes to 55 with 42 abstentions.

It would never be right for teachers to strike, or to threaten to do so, Lord Glenamara, a former Labour Secretary of State for Education, told the conference.

The peer, formerly Mr Ted Short and a one-time teacher, said that teachers should aim for professional status rather than industrial trade-unionism.

Red tape ties up glass exhibits

By Geraldine Norman

Customs and excise red tape is tangling up an exhibition of 1950s artist glassmakers, sent to Britain by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Culture, so effectively that the exhibits may never be released.

Dan Klein, a Belgrade dealer in decorative arts, had received five crates of glass from Czechoslovakia for an exhibition he intends to hold in his gallery in October.

He had applied for relief from import duty under the Temporary Importation (Goods for Exhibition) Regulations, 1963

while giving Customs a deposit of £2,500 against duty.

He says his local customs and excise officer has rejected his appeal for relief of duty and said that "failure to comply with the correct procedures may lead to forfeiture of the goods". Needless to say, the goods are not Mr Klein's to forfeit.

"The whole thing is completely arbitrary", Mr Klein says. "It is up to the local customs officer to decide what rules apply in each case. It should not be like that."

An exhibition of Czech contemporary artist glassmakers at the Glass House in Covent Garden, is timed to coincide with Klein's.

In both cases the exhibits have been provided by Art Centrum, the arts and crafts wing of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Culture. But the Glass House has been allowed relief of duty under the "goods for exhibition" regulations, although both galleries come under the same West End excise area.

Couples' Eucharist plea

By Robert Nowell

A book published today makes an appeal to the Roman Catholic bishops of England and Wales to follow the example of some other hierarchies and allow a non-Catholic husband or wife of a Roman Catholic to be admitted to communion in certain circumstances.

Called *Sharing Communion* it reports the experience of 80 couples who belong to Association of Inter Church Families, which consists of Roman Catholics married to members of other churches. They are couples both of whom are fully practising members of their

respective churches. Sixty-four of non-Roman Catholic spouses are Anglicans, with eight Methodists, three United Reformed Church, two Baptists, two Church of Scotland, and one Quaker.

Because of their high commitment, such couples find it distressing to be separated at the Eucharist, especially on important occasions such as their own weddings.

Sharing Communion: An Appeal to the Churches by Inter Church Families, Edited by Ruth Reardon and Melanie Finch (Collins, £2.95).

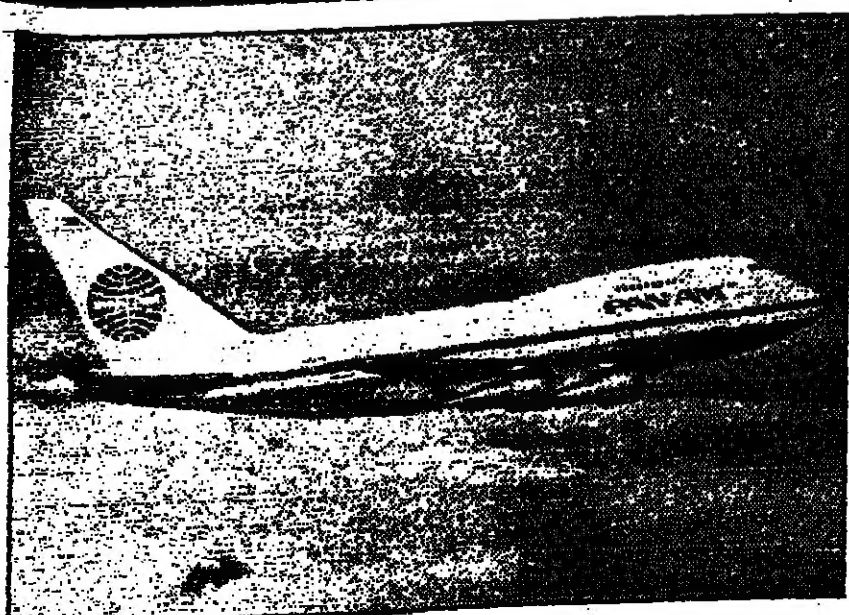
Crematorium plan

By David Walker, Local Government Correspondent

Westminster City Council may sell its municipal crematorium to a private firm. Councilors are concerned that only a small percentage of those cremated at the East Finchley, north London, crematorium were in Westminster.

The crematorium, which urns out about 1,700 cremations a year, costs the council more than £55,000 in net spending.

Westminster, which is Conservative-controlled, is reviewing all its services on the orders of Mrs Shirley Porter, its leader.



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Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

Dr David Owen gave his Liberal partners both a commitment and a warning when he spoke at Penrith on Tuesday evening in support of the Liberal candidate in the by-election.

"Let everyone know," he declared, "that between now and the general election when there is a local council, Euro-election or parliamentary by-election, our two parties will work together for what we believe is the common good."

The precise terms of the statement are worth studying with some care. Dr Owen was promising that the SDP would maintain the electoral alliance with the Liberals up to the next general election. But he was promising no more than that.

It is not absolutely clear from his formulations that the Alliance will be continued through the general election although it would be natural to assume that it will be. But it is evident from Dr Owen's remarks that he is offering no more than an electoral alliance. It would be "four two parties" that would be working together, not a new united party. He was therefore implicitly warning the Liberals not to press the demand for a merger.

Unwise to force the pace

That will be irritating to many Liberals who believe that the Alliance will look credible to the country as an alternative government only if the two parties come together as a single entity. I have much sympathy with that point of view, but it would be unwise for the Liberals to try to force the pace.

A merger that was pushed through against powerful resistance would probably lead to more, not less, conflict. Liberals are unlikely to bring a merger nearer simply by demanding it and the harder they call for it the more difficult they may make it to secure practical agreements with the SDP in the meantime.

That applies particularly to arrangements for fighting next year's European elections. The Liberals want the joint selection of candidates by both parties in each constituency; many Social Democrats, including Dr Owen, are known to fear that this would be impracticable, and some of them suspect that it is simply a device to force a de facto merger on them.

The course of wisdom

Once again the course of wisdom is not to pursue the best at the expense of the good. At last week's meeting of the SDP national committee, it was agreed to set up a sub-committee for discussions with the Liberals on this issue among other arrangements for the European elections. A report will be made to the next meeting of the national committee on September 6.

The ideal outcome for the Alliance would be an acceptable arrangement for joint election; the worst would be a continued rumbling dispute. That danger will be avoided only if on both sides there is a little less self-righteousness, a greater readiness to compromise and probably a willingness to allow for local variations.

That would accord with the present state of the Alliance. The two parties are rather like churches in which the communal spirit has led to joint forms of worship at local levels in defiance of the bishops and without regard for the theologians.

At some stage, a greater regularity of practice will be required. But for the moment, the greatest contributions that the Liberals and Social Democratic bishops and theologians can make is not to thwart the spirit of ecumenism in the many places where it exists.

Dr Owen has offered a more limited form of partnership than many Liberals would like and some of their theologians may be tempted to engage him in doctrinal disputation. They would do better to leave the long-term relationship between the two parties to the pressure of events and of opinion within Dr Owen's own party. If there is not a sufficient desire within the SDP to join forces with the Liberals, a merger would not work; and if there is a strong desire among Social Democrats for a merger, it cannot be resisted for ever.

Parkinson says changes will bring competition

STOCK EXCHANGE

In the light of the case brought by the Director General of Fair Trading against the Stock Exchange in the Restrictive Trade Practices Court, the Council of the Stock Exchange has agreed to change its rules. Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, told the Commons in a statement. He is to seek parliamentary approval for measures to exclude the Stock Exchange from the operation of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

Mr Peter Archer, Chief Opposition spokesman on trade, called for a public inquiry into the Stock Exchange. He did not accept that a deal between cronies in a smoke-filled room was a substitute for an inquiry.

Mr Parkinson said: Ministers have for some time been concerned that the court proceedings under the Restrictive Trade Practices Act may not be the best way to pursue the matters raised by the Director General. While these proceedings are pending, it is difficult for the Stock Exchange to make changes to its members to compete for business worldwide.

There is also a danger that the legal proceedings within the framework of the Act may damage the effective operation of the Stock Exchange, which remains essential to the working of our economy.

Accordingly, the Government would wish to see the matter settled out of the court. If the Stock Exchange is able to make acceptable changes, I decided to discuss the matter with the Director General and thereafter with the chairman of the Stock Exchange.

I explained that the Government had concluded that in order to safeguard the position of investors the separation of the functions of brokers and jobbers should be preserved at least for the time being in its present form. The House will recall that, in analogous circumstances, it insisted on separating brokers and underwriters at Lloyd's.

The Stock Exchange's rules which prescribe the separation of capacity may have to be included in statutory provisions under EC directives. In that case I intend to make regulations under the European Communities Act.

I said that I should also expect the Stock Exchange to make changes on grounds of concern to the Director General.

Following discussions with his council, the chairman of the Stock Exchange has made the following proposals to me:

The council will take action to dismantle by September 1984 all rules which prescribe minimum scales of commission, completing this by December 31 1986.

The Stock Exchange will continue

the rules prescribing separation of capacity of brokers and jobbers. The council will introduce rules to permit non-members to serve as non-executive directors of limited corporate members of the Stock Exchange, provided that there is always a majority of directors who are members of the Stock Exchange.

The council will recommend to the members of the Stock Exchange changes which would:

First, introduce lay members to the Council of the Stock Exchange; number and the method of their selection to be agreed with the Bank of England.

Second, establish a new appeal body, independent of Stock Exchange members, to deal with appeals against the decisions of the council which fulfilled the requirements of the rules, the appeal body could review the decision and overrule it. This body would include lay members of the council but Stock Exchange members of the council would not be eligible.

Third, introduce people who are not Stock Exchange members of the council to the Stock Exchange's existing appeals committee on disciplinary matters so that they will constitute at least a majority on the committee. Lay members of the council would be eligible to serve on this committee.

I believe that these changes are to be welcomed, and would enable the Stock Exchange to continue to adapt in an evolutionary manner to changing circumstances while maintaining proper regard to the needs and protection of investors.

The next step will be for the membership to approve the necessary changes to the Stock Exchange's deed of settlement.

I shall also make arrangements for the Department of Trade and Industry and the Bank of England to monitor the implementation of these measures, and the evolution and development of the Stock Exchange as an efficient, competitive and suitably regulated central market which affords proper protection to investors.

Subject to these two points the Government will seek approval of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act for measures to exclude the Stock Exchange from the operation of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

Mr Archer: Mr Parkinson asking the House to accept that deal between cronies in a smoke-filled room is a substitute for a full public inquiry into how the public interest is affected by a major institution like the Stock Exchange.

Are there to be no changes in the rules restricting the rights of non-members to acquire an interest in brokerage firms or the rules inhibiting jobbers from entering into international arrangements to increase efficiency?

If the Restrictive Practices Court is not to be permitted to inquire into these matters, does he have any alternative proposals for a proper

public inquiry to get the most effective way to be found to protect non professional investors and retain Britain's share of benefits from the international trade and securities? Or does he consider that is not the proper business of the British public?

Does the Government's obsession for open democracy and freedom of choice for the trade unions not apply in the secret recesses of the City?

In the absence of any inquiry the public will understandably conclude that the Government has sold out to their City friends who are helping them to shield off public assets at knockdown prices.

This is a calculated slap in the face for the Director General of Fair Trading and his office. Why could he not have had these matters raised in the House and followed by a simple, short Bill.

On the competitive policy, I agree this is an area which needs detailed examination and I have commission and urgent work on this subject. I will report his views on stamp duty to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP): What are the precedents for seeking to amend a statute while proceedings are pending under that statute? It does not believe in fair trading?

Mr Parkinson: The trade unions were registered under this Act by his Government as an exempt body and they are substantial donors to the Labour Party. I would so much suggest that that was why they were given an exemption that I hope he would imply that we were looking after our friends. The case for exempting the Stock Exchange is a strong one.

These concessions are substantial. Abolition of minimum commissions will produce fundamental changes in the make-up of the Stock Exchange. This is a major change.

It is in the interests of non-members that we are bringing lay members on to the council and why the appeals committee will be made up of non-members, non-Stock Exchange members of the Stock Exchange, people in a position to look after the interests of users of the Stock Exchange.

The costs will be paid by the taxpayer, who would have footed the bills into the first place, who were going to pay the costs of what would have been an unnecessary and expensive action from which only the lawyers would eventually have benefited.

The Director General of Fair Trading can justifiably claim some credit for some major concessions made by the Stock Exchange. In many instances costly litigation is avoided because of the common sense prevails, as in this case.

Mr Edward de Caix (Taunton, C): Will this be a piece of legislation which will not be an opportunity to see and debate it?

This is constructive and necessary changeover to the metric system but we do believe that it should remain a voluntary-based system for individual sectors of industry and commerce should have a strong say and a preference on which system they want.

Mr Edmon Griffiths (Bury St Edmunds, C): Many of the companies which make machines which measure and control in other matters, feel handicapped by the department being too slow in its certification of new machines and also too expensive in the fees it charges.

In view of the severe competition in the weighing and scale machine industry, will be taken into account the possibility of self-certification and privatization in this area?

Mr Fletcher: I am planning to visit one of our largest manufacturers of weighing equipment within the next few weeks and I will, on that visit, learn a bit more about the problems of the industry and take into account the points he has made.

Airbus decision not linked to privatization

Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, denied an Opposition suggestion that the Government was not going ahead with the A320 Airbus because of the proposed privatization of British Airways.

Mr Stanley Orme, Chief Opposition spokesman on industry, (Salford East) said: There is concern about the need to develop the A320 Airbus, both for British Aerospace and for the workers. Will he confirm or deny that the Government are not going ahead because of the proposed privatization of British Airways?

Government urged to warn Spain

The Government should warn that it will tax Spanish holidays unless Spain agrees to accept the new rules. Mr Joe Ashton (Bassetlaw, Lab) suggested.

Mr Roger Kirk (Birmingham, Northfield, C) had asked if the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry would make representations to the Spanish Government about their car import duty.

Retiring clerk's outstanding qualities

Peers approved a motion introduced in the House of Lords by Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, paying tribute to the service of Sir Peter Williams, who has retired as Clerk of the Parliaments.

Viscount Whitelaw, in a speech, praised Sir Peter's "outstanding qualities".

Also agreed was a motion approving the appointment of Mr Michael Wheeler, South as Reading Clerk and Clerk of Outdoor Committees of the House in place of Mr John Saintry.

Four service areas planned for M25

Proposals to establish four service areas on the M25 orbital route around London at approximately 30 mile intervals are set out in a consultative paper which Mrs Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in a Commons written reply was being sent to local planning and highway authorities.

She said that two sites had already been identified where a motorway service area would be acceptable on traffic engineering grounds and would not seem to be environmentally intrusive. One was close to the southern entrance to the Dartford Tunnel and the other at the junction with A1(M) at South Mimms.

We will press ahead as soon as possible (she said) with the steps necessary for the development of service areas at these two locations which will service those stretches of M25 between the A1, M1 and M20.

There was also a strong case for the development of two further service areas on the western side south of the M4 and in East Surrey but they recognised that all potential sites in these areas would raise environmental and possible other problems.

She was appointing consultants to advise on the best locations in these areas and to help the department draw up detailed proposals for planning clearance. Subject to confirmation of the policy in the consultative paper, they would be asked to report by the end of February 1984 so that the two service areas could open as soon as possible after the completion of the M25.



Parkinson: A major step

any action which shows there is a need for the complete restoration of competitive policy particular reference to the public interest.

The real deterrent to stock ownership and wider share ownership is the rate of stamp duty, not commission.

Mr Parkinson: On the first point I am in discussion with the Attorney General. We could have an order laid before the House and follow a formative procedure or we could have a simple, short Bill.

On the competitive policy, I agree this is an area which needs detailed examination and I have commission and urgent work on this subject. I will report his views on stamp duty to the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, OUP): What are the precedents for seeking to amend a statute while proceedings are pending under that statute? It does not believe in fair trading?

Mr Parkinson: The Act envisages that other bodies could be added to the list of bodies which are exempt from these provisions and there is a very substantial list, which includes the trade unions the legal profession and my own profession (accountancy).

Mr Robert Sheldon, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury affairs: Is it not strange that a government dedicated to the free market should be limiting that in the operation of the Stock Exchange?

Mr Parkinson: This represents a major change. Getting rid of minimum commission will lead to a whole range of other changes. Sir William Clark (Croydon South, C): Those who understand how the City works will welcome this statement. If we were to put upon the Stock Exchange or other operators of City activities an inflexibility by more regulation that would inhibit what is the leading finance market in the world. The Stock Exchange has been for the protection of investors.

Mr Parkinson: I hope the House recognises that an efficient central security market is a vital part of our economy.

Mr Ian Wrigglesworth (Stockton South, SDP): His statement makes a mockery of the Government's advocacy of greater competition.

Mr Wrigglesworth: He has had with the Director General himself? Is there anything to stop the Director General continuing with the action he is now taking?

Mr Parkinson: I saw the Director

Rate support cut by £45m

Authorities on June 17 I said that in light of this I have overruled it was my view that there would have to be an abatement in the rate support grant payable in 1983-84.

I could not indicate at what level that might be until I knew the outcome of the local authorities which I had resisted against certain local authorities on grounds of excessive and unreasonable expenditure.

On July 21 the House approved reports proposing reductions in the rate support grant payable in 1983-84 to Scottish local authorities by £45m.

As with the abatement in 1982-83 I shall make a similar statement to the effect that no authority will suffer a loss of grant greater than its excess at outturn over current expenditure guidelines and this will be no means of an adjustment in the rate support grant settlement for 1984-85.

The provisional figure for local authority current expenditure in 1984-85 will be some £2,730m, that is about £60m more than the provision in the public expenditure white paper. I will in due course issue current expenditure guidelines to authorities for 1984-85.

New squadron

Mr John Stanley, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, in a Commons written reply, announced that a Royal Auxiliary Air Force aerobically equipped squadron is to be formed on September 9 1983 at the Princess Alexandra Hospital RAF Wroughton.

Health advice

The decision to establish a health education advisory committee for Wales on January 1 1984 was announced in a Commons written reply by Mr Wyn Roberts, Under Secretary of State for Wales.

Wales

North Wales (S.6.44)

South Wales (S.6.45)

East Wales (S.6.46)

West Wales (S.6.47)

London Central (S.6.48)

London South and Surrey East (S.6.49)

London South and Surrey West (S.6.50)

London North and Surrey (S.6.51)

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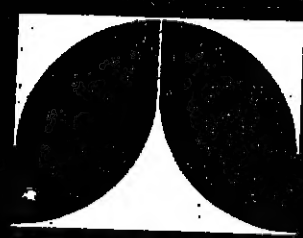
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THE TIMES THURSDAY JULY 28 1983

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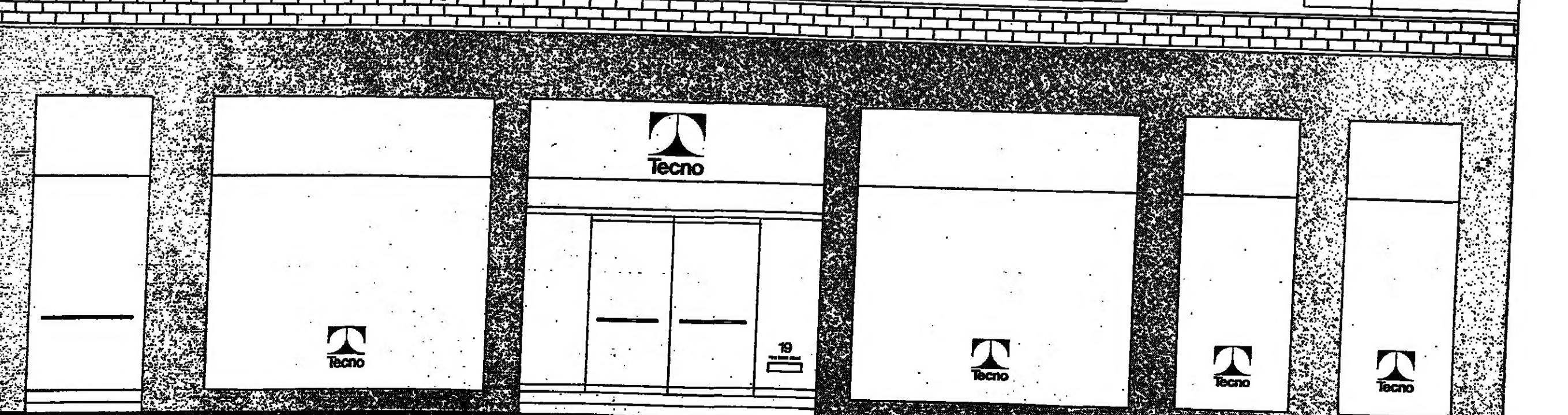
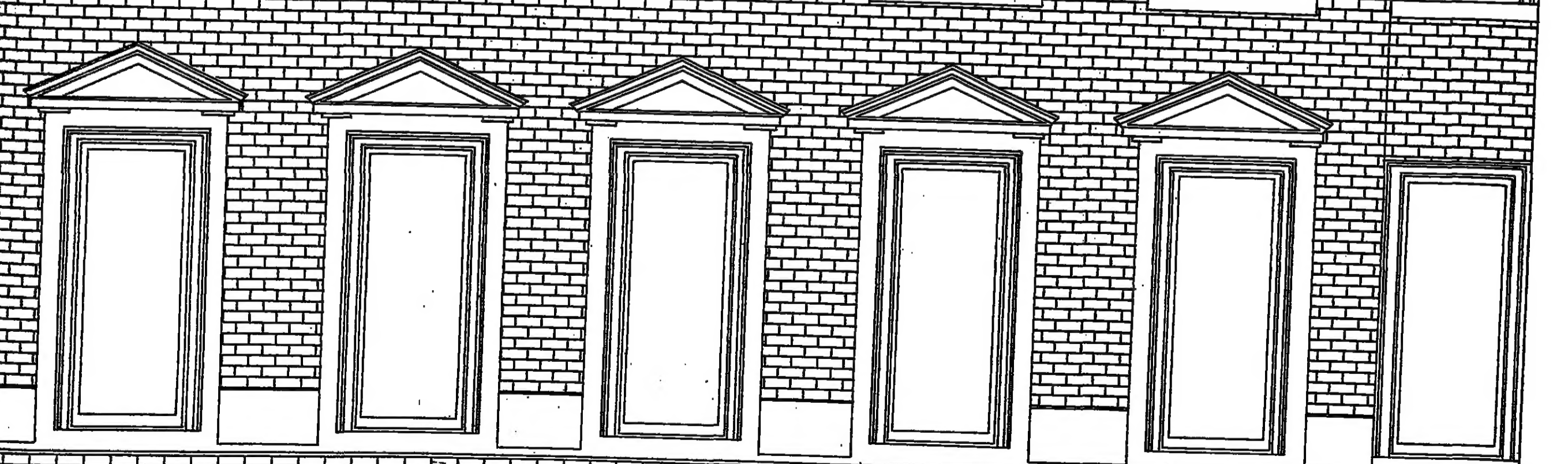
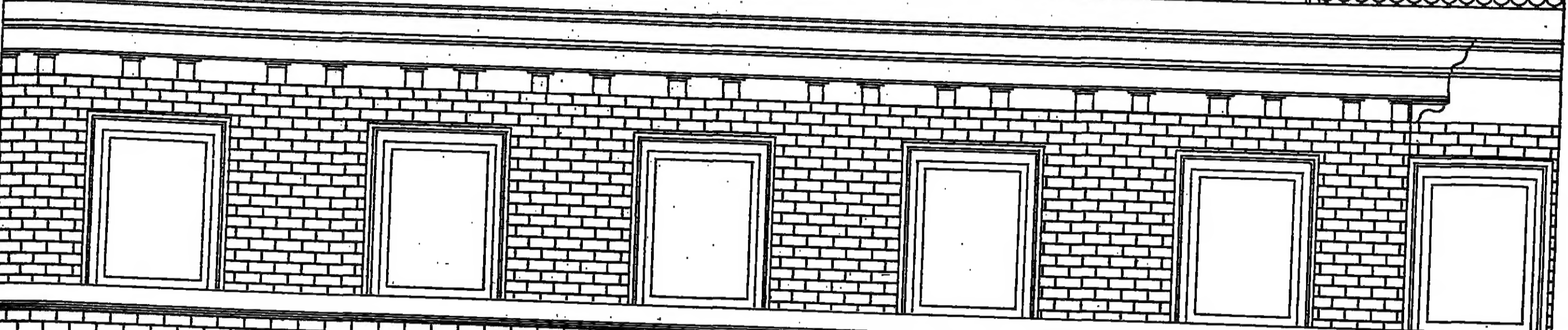
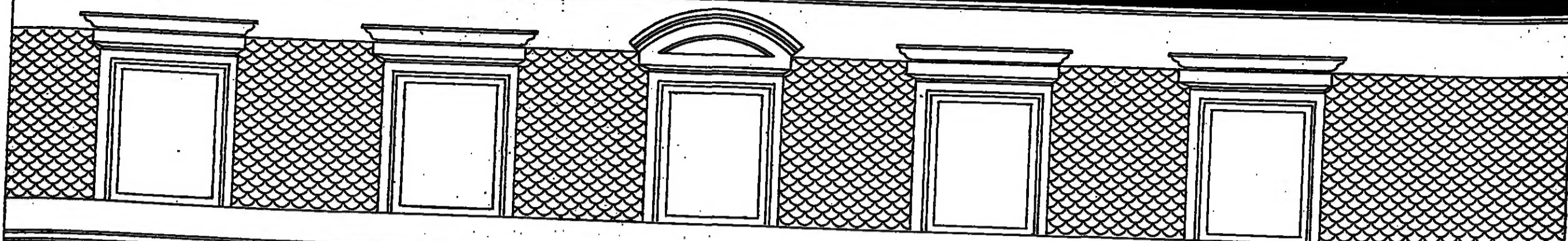


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Opening today

Reagan reassurance fails to satisfy critics of Central American policy

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan's insistence in a nationwide television broadcast that he is not leading the United States towards another Vietnam-style engagement in Central America has failed to stem a bitter and increasingly emotional partisan debate about the build-up of American arms and military personnel in the region.

Some Republican critics of the strategy were seemingly not fully reassured by the President's assertion that "There is no comparison with Vietnam and there is not going to be anything of that kind," although most republicans pronounce themselves satisfied.

Immediately after the broadcast, Democratic leaders were strident in their warnings of conflict and demanded that the US call off the substantial military exercise planned in Central America between August and at least February.

Former Vice-President Walter Mondale, a leading contender for the Democratic presidential nomination, said that after listening to the President he was more certain than ever that the US was being led to war.

Mr Reagan appeared defensive throughout the press conference, which he opened with the longest prepared statement of any of his 19 presidential press conferences.

His attempt to portray the forthcoming military exercises as "routine" brought widespread criticism yesterday. During the manoeuvres US

warships will be positioned off both coasts of Central America while up to 4,000 US military personnel carry out exercises in Honduras. Critics pointed out yesterday that nothing of that scale or for such a duration has happened in Central America before.

Mr Reagan described the operations as a security shield and complained that insufficient attention was being given to the other strands of US strategy, such as the creation of the Kissinger commission and the efforts of Mr Richard Stone, the special envoy to Central America.

"We are not planning a war and we don't think that is going to happen," he said. "I don't want to see such a thing. We want peace."

"You have got to prevent what is happening down there to people who want peace, but are not allowed to have it because of outside forces that are seizing upon their situation and hoping to further their own ideological aims."

"We are not seeking a larger presence in that region and US forces have not been requested there," he continued. "The United States stands firmly on the side of peace."

In contrast to his earlier belligerent tone towards Nicaragua and Cuba, Mr Reagan said he was encouraged by recent statements by both countries in which they held out the prospect of regional peace negotiations.

Mr Reagan has written to the presidents of the Contadora group of nations - Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama - in which he appears to cast doubt on the prospects for their peace efforts.

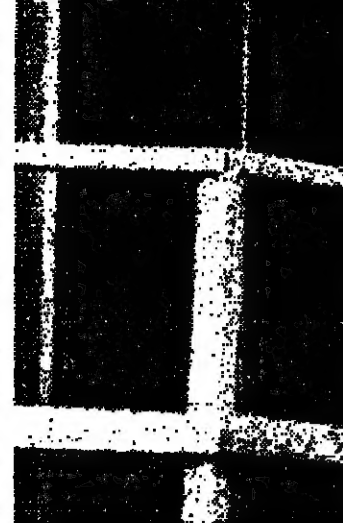
Mexico, the principal member of the group, is highly critical of the increased US military presence in Central America and has given warning that American pressure could push Nicaragua completely into the arms of the Soviet Union.

That point will be made forcefully by President de la Madrid when he meets President Reagan for formal talks in La Paz on August 14.

Mr Reagan's television appearance prompted an almost immediate joint statement by three former Democratic Secretaries of State in which they called on Congress to cut off secret US aid to anti-government guerrillas in Nicaragua.

The House of Representatives is due to vote shortly on a Bill that seeks an immediate cut-off, but whatever the outcome there is no real prospect that the Senate would approve such a proposal.

Mr Edmund Muskie, Mr Dean Rusk and Mr Cyrus Vance, former Secretaries of State, said that any US support for El Salvador against intervention from the leftist Sandinista regime in Nicaragua "should be overt and not covert". They urged that American activities should conform to domestic and international law.



Fighting talk: Nicaragua's territorial militia giving an enthusiastic reception in Managua to tough words from Commander Humberto Ortega, the Defence Minister (left) when he told them of the projected American naval manoeuvres, and urged them to resist the "dangers" of US intervention "house by house".

Castro accuses US of terror campaign

From Barbara Crossette (New York Times)

President Fidel Castro of Cuba says that the United States is trying to deploy troops in Central America through military manoeuvres now beginning in the region.

He said on Tuesday that over the past few weeks the US had been trying to create an atmosphere of terror around Nicaragua and that the campaign was awakening deep concern worldwide.

Nicaragua was being threatened with the same demented policy that had been used against Cuba since 1962, he said, and alleged that Washington's activities in Central America added up to a grave mistake that would have serious consequences for the US.

Earlier in the day Señor Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada, Cuba's Deputy Foreign Minister, told journalists that Havana would regard a blockade or quarantine of Nicaragua as an act of war against that country.

He said, however, that Cuba was prepared to join in negotiations on Central America

sponsored by the Contadora group, to the extent that Nicaragua wanted Havana's participation.

But Señor Alarcon seemed to rule out a withdrawal of Cuban military advisers from Nicaragua. The Contadora group - comprising Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela - has called for the removal of all foreign military advisers from the region. He said Cuba's cooperation with Nicaragua was a matter between two sovereign states.

President Castro's remarks on Tuesday night came in a speech to mark Cuba's national holiday, which commemorates what the Government regards as the first act of revolution that brought President Castro to power.

The speech was largely a list of the successes of his 25 years in power, but he also said that both Cuba and Nicaragua had accepted the most recent proposals of the heads of Government of the Contadora group, who met in Cancun, Mexico, earlier this month.

The US he said, had responded by calling for the virtual

resignation of the Nicaraguan Government.

He spoke in general terms about the spread of US military activity in the region and said these manoeuvres in effect put troops in Central America.

Señor Alarcon said Nicaragua was subject to open military aggression and needed to defend itself. He denied that Cuba had ever had as many as 2,000 military advisers in Nicaragua, although he declined to offer a specific figure.

Cuba had strengthened its civilian militias in the face of the military exercises and reports of an increasing US military presence in the region. Thousands of women had been added to the armed ranks for the first time.

Señor Alarcon declined to specify what actions Cuba was prepared to take should the US try to isolate Nicaragua militarily, but he said that the response from Latin America and the Caribbean would be swift and negative, and would be politically costly to the US.

American system. Cuba has not been a member of the Organization of American States since its political system was found incompatible in the 1960s, and Havana was suspended from participation.

Señor Alarcon said that Havana viewed the situation in Central America as very grave, very delicate.

"We are approaching a decisive moment," he said. Next January marks the Castro Government's twenty-fifth anniversary. However, the storming of an army barracks in Santiago, on July 26, 1953, is commemorated as the first act of rebellion against the Government of Fulgencio Batista.

It was from a small farmhouse outside Santiago in the village of Siboney that about 130 revolutionaries, including Castro, then a lawyer in his 20s, attacked the Moncada army garrison. The attack was planned for carnival night, July 26, when the rebels assumed that many of the troops would be less than vigilant. The attack failed and a number of rebels died or were arrested.

Iranians display gains of offensive

Iranian forces have taken foreign reporters to the scene of their offensive into northern Iraq, showing that they have advanced nine miles into Iraqi territory and captured a garrison.

They took the reporters past the captured garrison of Haj Omran to a line of defensive positions overlooking the village of Rayat. Latest communiques say fighting has continued on the frontlines.

Tutu allowed to travel

Johannesburg - Bishop Desmond Tutu, general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, has been issued with restricted travel documents to attend the World Council of Churches assembly in Canada. He had been refused the return of his passport earlier this month (Ray Kennedy writes).

His passport was withdrawn in 1980 after he made a speech in Denmark calling for an end to foreign investment in South Africa to force the Government to change its apartheid laws.

Dead drunk by the swag

Police tipped off about a housebreaking found a man passed out in an easy chair with an empty bottle of whisky by his side in Johannesburg yesterday. The owners of the house are on holiday (Ray Kennedy writes).

The man's pockets were stuffed with jewelry and there was a bag of swag ready to be taken away. When he came to in the police station he was arrested.

UPI's new chief



Mr Maxwell McCrobb who has been appointed editor-in-chief of United Press International, America's second largest news agency. Mr McCrobb, aged 55, is a Chicago newspaper executive, succeeds Mr H. J. Stewardson.

Friars freed

Vienna (AP) - Three Franciscan friars have been unexpectedly released from prison in Czechoslovakia after being held for four months without trial. Austria's Kathpress news agency reported. The friars had become an underground cause after their arrest on March 27.

Maori defence

Wellington (Reuter) - Dun Miah, the Maori protester who barred his backside at the Prince and Princess of Wales during their New Zealand tour told a court yesterday that he had contempt for royalty and the "horrible history of the House of Windsor". The case continues.

Warrants issued

Rome (AP) - Arrest warrants have been issued for two former employees of the Bulgarian Embassy in Rome for an alleged plan to set up a spy network. They were identified as Ivan Tomov Donchev and Simeon Georgiev Dytchov. Both men have left Italy.

Party man freed

Montevideo (Reuter) - Señor Carmine Mederos Galvan, a leading member of Uruguay's traditional Blanco Party, was released from prison yesterday after a 28-day detention for slandering the armed forces.

Swedish hunt

The Swedish Navy was yesterday hunting a suspected submarine in the Gulf of Bothnia, north of Lulea, after 15 fishermen reported seeing a periscope.

Britons tell of violence in Colombo

British holidaymakers returning home from Sri Lanka yesterday described how they were "imprisoned" in their hotels during the riots in Colombo (the Press Association reports). They advised people not to go there.

They were on the first flight to Britain since the violence broke out between Tamils and Sinhalese early on Monday.

Mr Ian Ritchie, a businessman from Winchester, who had been in Colombo since Sunday and was on the Air Lanka flight to Gatwick, said: "Gangs were roaming the streets setting buildings on fire and there were thick clouds of smoke everywhere."

"It started on Monday, and then we were put under a curfew. The worst violence, I understand, was in Colombo, but the authorities were trying to play it down."

The British High Commission in Colombo has also warned tourists to stay away for at least two days, although the curfew was lifted yesterday.

The 3,000 British tourists and 500 residents were confined to their hotels and homes for 24 hours while police restored peace.

A businessman on holiday with his family in Colombo said: "I saw buildings and shops being set on fire, and gangs were also looting the shops and overturning cars. They were stopping buses, pulling people off them and really laying into them."

Some British people had lost everything when their hotel was set on fire.

Mr Christopher Plant, who lives in Hongkong, was touring Sri Lanka with his wife. Soldiers were manning road blocks every quarter of a mile, he said. Some villages near by had been set on fire.

A party of 11 teenagers from Cardiff and Cornwall is known to have split into two groups. Some are believed to be in the area where violence began.

Their trip was organized and led by the Rev John Stacy-Marks, aged 34, of Flexbury Park Methodist Church in Bude, Cornwall. They flew to Colombo on July 7 for a six-week visit.

Mr Ivor Chinn, from Bude, whose daughter Susan, aged 19, is in the party, said Methodist headquarters in London told him that as far as they knew everything was all right. "But obviously we would like to hear from them."

Mr Douglas Ayers, another British businessman, said from Colombo that airline offices were besieged by tourists trying to get out of Sri Lanka when the curfew was lifted, but "these were a small number of people who were panicking. Most people carried on as normal inside the hotels or by swimming pools."

Camp fatalities take storm toll to 12

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Another two campers were killed as storms continued to wreak havoc across France, tearing up thousands of trees, ripping roofs off houses, blocking roads and laying waste thousands of acres of crops. The death toll over the past 10 days is now 12.

Falling trees were again responsible for the latest two deaths, crushing a girl, aged 12, as she lay asleep in a caravan near Tours, and a man, aged 44, in a tent near Bergerac, in the Dordogne, on Tuesday night.

The previous night, three campers had been killed by falling trees in the Niort region, near La Rochelle, as tornado-like winds gusted up to 60mph, snapping trees with 3ft thick trunks "like matchsticks", according to witnesses, while hailstones the size of table-tennis balls smashed windows and badly dented hundreds of cars.

The prefect for the region has asked the Government to declare it a disaster area, as had the Mayor of Nantes, farther north, in the Loire area, whose town was devastated by storms last week.

The freak storms, of rare violence but short duration,

have also been breaking out in the Auvergne, Burgundy, Alsace-Lorraine, Brittany and around the Bordeaux area. Hundreds have been made homeless, and tens of thousands of people have had their telephones and electricity cut off.

The Paris region was hit by storms early yesterday. More than 200 homes in the Seine et Marne area were badly damaged, and many trees in the Bois de Boulogne were blown down.

Dozens of campers have been taken to hospital, many suffering from concussion and hundreds have had to seek refuge with fellow campers or in hotels after their tents and caravans had been destroyed or camp sites flooded.

The national meteorological office forecast yesterday that the storms which started nearly a month ago, would begin to die down in most areas. But the heatwave that has brought record temperatures of more than 40C (104F) to many parts of the Rhône-Alpes and the Cote d'Azur is expected to continue for a while longer.



On death row: Rocky, a pit bull terrier, awaits execution at Seattle for his part in a robbery, for which his master was convicted. The dog is vicious.

Bhutto supporters plotted terrorism, minister says

From Hassan Akhtar, Islamabad

Mr Mahmood Haroon, Pakistan's Interior Minister, has accused the supporters of the late Prime Minister Bhutto of organizing terrorist activities against Pakistan's martial law regime. The recovery of two Sam 7 missiles from a house in Lahore, on Monday by an army raiding party, was part of those terrorist activities, he alleged.

In a brief statement yesterday Mr Haroon disclosed that Mr Nazir Mohammad a retired army officer, was one of three

people arrested so far. Mr Mohammad is the father of Mr Aftabul, an advocate, who is accused of acquiring the Sam 7s and hiding them in his house.

Sex sentence: A Sahiwal judge in Punjab has sentenced a young, blind, unmarried woman to three years imprisonment and 15 lashes for having illicit sexual relations with a man by whom she was given the "benefit of the doubt" and set free.

Greek Bill on nude bathing

From Mario Mediano Athens

In an attempt, no doubt, to add muscle to its flagging tourist trade, the Greek Government tabled a Bill making nudism legal, despite strong opposition from the Greek Orthodox Church.

The Bill empowers the national tourist organization to issue licences for the establishment of "visually isolated" nudist centres in secluded hotels or camping sites, provided the local authorities give their consent.

An introductory report to the Bill, signed by the ministers responsible for tourism and justice, pointed out that other countries "with strict mores" have tolerated nudism for several years because of its high financial return.

"Nature belongs to this species," it said, "usually belong to the higher income brackets." Greek tourism, which is suffering the consequences of the world economic recession and domestic inflation, was particularly hit this year.

This resulted in a 6 per cent drop in arrivals during the first five months of the year, but a 35 per cent decline in tourist revenue which, certainly, reflects an illegal drain of foreign exchange.

Nudism is illegal in Greece in any form, especially nudist bathing from public beaches. The penalty for what the law treats as an "offence to public morality" is between two and three weeks in jail or a fine.

This has the support of the Orthodox Church whose governing Holy Synod appealed to the Socialist Government to desist from its plan to legalize nudism.

The draft Bill does not alter the penal code provisions. It only exempts the patrons of licensed nudist centres from its consequences. Owners of establishments operating nudist centres without permit will be liable to one year's imprisonment or a fine of \$4,000.

Unarmed Arab students tackle Israeli troops with relish

From Christopher Walker, Ramallah

Angry Palestinians staged a series of demonstrations and commercial strikes throughout the occupied West Bank yesterday in protest against the attack on Hebron University on Tuesday in which three Arab students were killed and more than 30 others wounded.

The worst violence occurred at Bir Zeit, the main Palestinian university where four students were wounded during a day-long pitched battle with Israeli troops. Arab sources claimed two of the injured were hit by live bullets fired by the soldiers.

In East Jerusalem, all businesses and shops in the Arab sector were closed but elsewhere in the West Bank the planned general strike was only partial. Over 70,000 Arabs living in Hebron and neighbouring Halhul remained under strict military curfew.

The first hint of trouble came at 10am when angry students at Bir Zeit, the West Bank's oldest Arab university, spilled out on to the streets to erect stone barricades, set tyres alight and chant slogans in protest against this week's killings of fellow students in Hebron.

Shultz meets Shamir on troop pullback

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan, who is due to meet two Israeli Cabinet ministers in Washington here today, hopes that Israel's plan to pull back its forces to more secure lines in South Lebanon, would be only one phase leading to total troop withdrawal.

He held talks here last Friday with President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon and they both renewed their call for an early withdrawal of all foreign forces - Israeli, Syrian and Palestine Liberation Organization from Lebanon.

Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, and Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence

Minister, yesterday continued their two-day talks with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, on the controversial Israeli decision to redeploy its forces in South Lebanon and on other Middle East developments, in preparation for their meeting with Mr Reagan.

Mr Reagan was questioned at his press conference on Tuesday night about President Gemayel's view that the Israeli pull back amounted to a de facto partition of Lebanon.

He replied: "No. I am very hopeful that if this partial withdrawal takes place that it will be recognized."

Arafat makes surprise visit to Belgrade

From Dassa Trevisan Belgrade

Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was given all the honours due to a head of state when he arrived here yesterday on a surprise trip. His visit is clearly connected with continuing attempts to resolve the rift within Palestinian movement.

The Yugoslavs have continued to give their support to Mr Arafat.

The Yugoslavs have good relations with Syria, and their own standing in the non-aligned movement is important for Mr Arafat's hopes.

Survivor describes how shark shook girl like a doll

From Tony Duboudia Melbourne

A seaman who swam away from two friends after he was attacked by a shark off the north Queensland coast did so to draw the fish away, the skipper of a wrecked trawler said yesterday.

Mr Ray Boundy, the only survivor of the crew of three of the New Venture, which sank after being hit by a freak wave on Sunday night, said his friend, Mr Dennis Murphy, "gave up his life for us".

Some time after it took Mr Murphy, the shark returned and took Linda Horton, aged 21, who was the ship's cook.

Mr Boundy said that the shark grazed his leg when it grabbed at him before the later attack on Mr Murphy. He said a wave knocked them off the pieces of wreckage, to which they had been clinging, and the shark grabbed at Mr Murphy's leg "and wouldn't let go".

"I yelled at him: 'Kick as hard as you can'."

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upside down and grabbed Linda by the arm and chest. She wasn't in the water. I was, but I wasn't taken."

Mr Boundy said that it was "so quick, she squealed. It shook her like a rag doll to get her out of the life ring. It was lucky it was pretty quick. Linda was already delirious and she mumbled a few times before she went down with the shark."

Mr Boundy said that both Miss Horton who had given up an office job a few months earlier to join the ship, and Mr Murphy had been "talking bravely" about not giving up fishing despite their ordeal.

He said that after he had swum away the shark later returned and followed him round for hours. "At 8 o'clock I looked up and saw the reef and saw a rescue plane. As soon as I saw the reef I knew the shark was not going to get me."

Mr Boundy said that he would get another boat and return to fishing. "Dennis and Linda would want me to. They wouldn't think much of me if I gave it up after we battled hard to make a living for ourselves."

Senate vote supports MX cash for Reagan

The Republican-controlled Senate handed President Reagan a significant victory on Tuesday night, when it voted 58 to 41 for the production of the controversial MX missile.

It also passed a \$200,000 (£130,000) defence authorization Bill for the fiscal year 1982. This gives the President nearly all of the new weaponry that he wants to continue his military modernization programme to counter the huge Soviet military build-up.

The Senate vote on the MX defeated a move by opponents of the giant missile to cut \$2,500m earmarked for MX production out of the overall defence Bill.

Last week, the House of Representatives, which has a Democratic majority, in a close vote of 220-207, backed the production of the MX missiles, which have 10 warheads each.

The Administration wants the money to produce the first 27 of the 100 MX missiles, which are to be deployed in the next few years in underground silos in Wyoming and Nebraska.

But the votes in the Senate, after weeks of posturing, quaffing and emotional debates, are not the final word of Congress.

Congressional opponents have given warning that they will continue their crusade against the MX in the autumn, when both chambers take up Bills to appropriate the money for the authorized missiles.

"It's a fragile consensus", Senator Basil Fritch, Republican from Virginia, said. He was one of the 46 Republicans who voted for the MX on Tuesday night.

to be signed between Bonn and East Berlin in the near future.

But he evaded questions concerning the touchy issue of a reduction in the compulsory hard currency exchange required for Western visitors to East Berlin.

He hinted at possible improvements at the border between the two countries and said that cases of family reunion were being handled generously.

He said he had not discussed the possibility of further loans to East Berlin with Herr Honecker.

Herr Strauss, who travelled with his wife and son, also had talks with political leaders in Czechoslovakia and Poland. It was his first visit to all three countries.

An official report on the Soviet Union's worst shipping disaster on inland waterways blames the accident on members of the boat's crew who died in the collision.

Early in June, more than 100 people were killed when the Aleksandr Suvorov pleasure boat struck a railway bridge on the Volga not far from Ulyanovsk, at a point where the river narrows to a width of three miles.

On-the-spot accounts said that the boat had tried to negotiate the chasm between two support pillars instead of passing under the central span of the bridge. The top of the boat was sheered off, killing passengers who had been dancing or watching films on the upper deck.

The commission of inquiry headed by Mr. Geidar Aliyev, a Deputy Prime Minister, and a KGB member, blamed the accident on "gross violations by the motorship's command of the rules of service and the rules of navigation in inland waterways." It also found "lack of appropriate control" over safety regulations.

The report gave no details of casualties, and did not mention the circumstances of the accident. There are reports that the crew had been drinking, but this has not been confirmed.

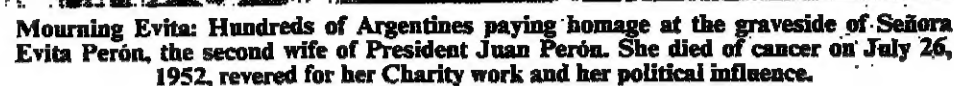
a metaphor that Collings was overheard to use. Collings claimed this was a response to a no less earthy remark directed at his team.

One thing led to another and Collings was called before the appeals committee, who asked him to apologize, which he did.

The Germans proceeded to beat the Swiss by 13 victory points to 2. Germany is now lying fourth while Switzerland is eleventh, next to bottom.

Von Richthofen is a nephew of Manfred von Richthofen, the famous "Red Baron" of Germany's top fighter ace in the first World War. He is also one of Europe's leading tournament directors.

Collings has played for Britain and is one of the bridge circuit's warmest, if more erratic, personalities.



Signor Bettino Craxi, the Italian Prime Minister-designate, is due to finish today his first round of detailed consultations with leaders of the parties he hopes to bring together in a new coalition. Tomorrow, he will discuss the results of his talks with his fellow Socialists before giving a

progress report to President Pertini. By the end of the week he is expected to tell the President whether he is in position to accept the invitation to form a government.

The general feeling is still that he will finally succeed, though a number of difficulties have to be faced. Asked last night

whether he did not expect hard treatment from some of his potential coalition partners. Signor Craxi replied: "You do not know how hard my own head is."

If he succeeds, he will become Italy's first Socialist prime minister.

Profile page 10

Norway alone has been given the right by the EEC to catch herring in the North Sea, a decision which has infuriated Scottish fishermen.

Having been kept out of their traditional fishing grounds for six years by an EEC conservation order the Scottish herring fisherman will now have to keep their boats tied up and watch their Norwegian rivals catch up to 9,000 tonnes of the fish.

The go-ahead to Norway was given at a meeting of EEC fisheries ministers after France switched its vote to support the move. This meant that Britain no longer held a blocking minority in the council.

Mr. Michael Jopling, the British Minister, did not try to use his right to veto the move, as Denmark had done repeatedly in the past to block herring quotas.

Mr. Jopling deplored this "willy nilly" use of the veto and felt this was not an appropriate moment to raise the vital national interest which was involved.

Mr. Robert Allan, chief executive of the Scottish Fishing Federation, disagreed. "We have always regarded the North Sea herring stocks as central to the future of the Scottish fishing industry," he said. "It is becoming completely disenfranchised with the common fisheries policy and will have to consider how to react."

Mr. Allan added: "Our fleets have been waiting six years for the resumption of herring fishing in the North Sea. A vital national interest is at stake here. The deal is odious, unpalatable and totally unacceptable. It's an absolute disgrace."

The seemingly inexorable progress towards regionalization in Belgium has taken another lurch forward with the coalition Government's latest proposals to bail out the country's beleaguered steel industry.

After seven months of hard fought bargaining between the French-speaking and Dutch-speaking communities, the Government has agreed a scheme to finance restructuring the industry which will bear significantly more heavily on Wallonia than on Flanders.

The French-speaking community will have to find some £335m of the total £1,300m restructuring bill. The remainder of the money will come from the national exchequer, to which Flanders contributes.

This difficult compromise was only achieved by agreement to press ahead with plans to build a gas terminal at Zeebrugge in Flanders. Flemish members of the cabinet would not agree to spend any money on Wallonia unless there was something in the plan to help Flanders.

The French-speaking community has also been slapped with a demand for a £100m annual extra aid for Brussels. The cabinet has reduced this amount to £6.25m.

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Immediately previous lawful use allowed

Young v Secretary of State for the Environment and Others
Before Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Lowry, Lord Roskill and Lord Brightman.
[Speeches delivered July 27]

Section 23 (9) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 did not enable a person upon whom an enforcement notice had been served alleging a breach of planning control by making a material change in the use of land, to revert to the use to which the land was last lawfully put but only to revert to the use immediately preceding that which was enforced against, provided that such use was itself lawful.

The House of Lords dismissed an appeal by Mr John Anthony Young from the Court of Appeal (Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice Watkins and Sir Roger

Ormerod) (*The Times* February 8, 1983) who had dismissed an appeal from Mr Justice Eames who dismissed his appeal against an enforcement notice in respect of a building in Woodside Crescent, Sidcup, served by Bexley Borough Council and confirmed by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Section 23 (9) provides: "Where an enforcement notice has been served in respect of any development of land, planning permission is not required for the use of the land for the purpose for which it could lawfully have been used if that development had not been carried out."

Mr Nigel Macleod, QC and Mr Stephen Bickford-Smith for the appellant; Mr Andrew Collins and Mr Simon D. Brown for the Secretary of State.

LORD FRASER said that where an enforcement notice was issued in respect of any development, what the subsection authorized without planning permission was use for the purpose for which the land could lawfully be used "if that development had not been carried out".

Accordingly one had to assume that the development consisting of the change of use in 1977 (in respect of which the enforcement notice had been issued) had not been carried out, and see what would have been the state of affairs on that assumption.

In the present case the land would have continued to be used as a laundry, as it was from 1970 to 1977. But admittedly it was not lawfully used during that period. The appellant claimed to be entitled to follow the planning history of the land further back

through its earlier uses until he got back to the last lawful use, as a light industrial building from 1969 to 1970. But the purpose of following the history back would not be consistent with the hypothesis of section 23 (9) which was that only the development of 1977 had not been carried out.

The appellant's argument would have involved reading the subsection as if it referred to the purpose "for which the land could last lawfully have been used before that development had been carried out". Such a reading would materially alter the sense of the subsection and was unwarranted.

Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Lowry, Lord Roskill and Lord Brightman agreed. Solicitors: Ward Bowie for Chancellor & Ridley, Darford; Treasury Solicitor.

Mallatien v Drummond
Before Lord Diplock, Lord Elwyn-Jones, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Roskill and Lord Brightman.
[Speeches delivered July 27]

In deciding whether a barrister taxpayer's object in expending £564.35 on the replacement and laundry of black suits and dresses was exclusively to serve her professional purposes, the Commissioners for the General Purposes of the Income Tax were not limited to considering the particular conscious motive in the taxpayer's mind at the moment of the expenditure.

The House of Lords allowed an appeal by Mrs Roderick Drummond, one of her Majesty's Inspectors of Taxes, from a decision of the Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Kerr and Sir Robert Shaw) (*The Times* December 13, 1982; [1983] 1 WLR 252) who upheld a decision of Mr Justice Slade (*The Times* March 13, 1981; [1981] 1 WLR 908) who allowed the appeal.

From a decision of the Commissioners for the General Purposes of the Income Tax for the Division of the Middle Temple who disallowed the taxpayer's claim to a deduction of that sum in computing the profits of her profession for assessment to income tax for the year of assessment 1977-78.

Mr Andrew Park, QC and Mr David Milne for the taxpayer; Mr Peter Millett, QC, Mr Robert Carruthers and Mr Michael Hart for the Crown.

LORD BRIGHTMAN said that the immediate issue concerned the right of a female barrister, in computing the profits of her profession, to deduct the cost of upkeep of a wardrobe of clothes of a design and colour suitable to be worn under her gown during court appearances.

But during the course of the argument that issue was found to

resolve itself into a far more general and fundamental question: whether any person carrying on a trade, profession or vocation on his own account was entitled to a similar deduction if he chose to set apart clothes, underclothes and footwear for use only at his place of work, and when proceeding to and from his place of work.

The taxpayer was a member of the junior Bar with a busy court practice. When appearing in open court she was obliged to wear a gown over her ordinary clothing, and a wig. When not in open court but in the chambers of a judge, mazer or registrar, she would (or could) appear in her ordinary clothes without wig or gown.

What sort of clothes a barrister should wear in court and chambers was a matter of good taste and common sense, the criterion being that they should be appropriate to the dignity of the occasion.

No official guidance was ever thought necessary until about 60 years ago. A barrister conformed as a matter of course to the sartorial standards of his colleagues.

By 1922 the ranks of the Bar began to be enriched by the entry of women barristers, who had no precedents or comparisons to draw upon. Rules were accordingly issued by the Lord Chief Justice and amended in 1968.

The 1968 rules had now been replaced by brief "Notes for Guidance on Dress in Court", which applied to barristers of both sexes. Those notes were formally approved by the Bar Council and received the assent of the Lord Chief Justice.

They provided that: "The dress of barristers appearing in court should be unobtrusive and compatible with the wearing of robes."

"Suits and dresses should be of dark colour. Dresses or blouses should be long-sleeved and high to the neck... Skirts and blouses should be predominantly white or of other unobtrusive appearance."

Collars should be white and shoes black."

There were no other rules relating to the clothes to be worn by a female barrister under her court gown.

The taxpayer bought clothes in conformity with those requirements. The initial cost of purchase was a capital expense and therefore not material for present purposes. However, she needed to clean and renew them from time to time and in the accounting period for the year of assessment 1977/78 she spent some £500 on replacements, laundering and cleaning. That sum was claimed as a deduction in computing the profits of her practice under Schedule D.

To qualify as a deduction the expenditure had to fall outside the prohibition contained in section 130 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 which provided: "Subject to the provisions of the Act, computing the amount of the profits or gains to be charged under Case I or Case II of Schedule D, no sum shall be deducted in respect of—

(a) any disbursements or expenses, not being money wholly and exclusively laid out for the purpose, profession or vocation;

(b) any disbursements or expenses of maintenance of the parties, their families or establishments, for any sums expended for any other domestic or private purposes distinct from the purposes of the trade, profession or vocation."

The effect of section 130(a) was to exclude as a deduction the money spent by the taxpayer unless she could establish that it was spent exclusively for the purposes of her profession.

The words "expended for the purposes of the trade, profession or vocation" meant expended to serve the purposes of the trade, profession or vocation or for the purposes of enabling a person to carry on and earn profits in the trade etc. The words did not refer to "the purposes" of the taxpayer but to the purposes of the business which was a different concept although the purposes (that is, the intentions or objects) of the taxpayer were fundamental to the application of section 130(a).

The effect of the word "exclusively" was to preclude a deduction if the taxpayer had the object of the expenditure was not only to serve the purposes of the trade, profession or vocation of the taxpayer but also to serve some other purpose. To ascertain whether the money was expended to serve the purposes of the taxpayer's business it was necessary to discover the taxpayer's "object" in making the expenditure.

The General Commissioners had therefore to look into the taxpayer's mind at the moment when the expenditure was made. Later events were irrelevant to the application of section 130 except as a reflection of the taxpayer's state of mind at the time of the expenditure.

If it appeared that the object of the taxpayer at the time of the expenditure was to serve two purposes, the purposes of the business and other purposes, it was immaterial to the application of section 130(a) that the business purposes were the predominant purposes intended to be served.

The object of the taxpayer in making the expenditure had to be distinguished from the effect of the expenditure. An expenditure might be made exclusively to serve the purposes of the business, but it might have a private advantage.

The existence of that private advantage did not necessarily preclude the exclusivity of the business purpose.

For example, if a medical consultant flew to the south of France for a week and stayed in the home of his friend whom he was attending professionally and sought to recover the cost of his air fare, the question would be whether the journey was undertaken solely to serve the purposes of his medical practice. That would be judged in the light of his object in making the journey.

The question would be answered by considering whether the stay in the south of France was a reason, however subordinate, for undertaking the journey, or was not a reason but only the effect. If the only object was to attend upon his patient, his stay on the Riviera would be an unavoidable effect of the expenditure on the journey and the expenditure lay outside the prohibition in section 130.

The appeal was basically concerned with the distinction between object and effect. The inspector of taxes disallowed the deduction claimed by the taxpayer. She appealed to the General Commissioners who confirmed the inspector's assessment. The taxpayer successfully appealed to the High Court who was upheld by the Court of Appeal. The inspector now appealed.

The General Commissioners found as facts, *inter alia*, that the taxpayer had a private wardrobe which was amply sufficient to keep her clothed and that she had no having to resort to any of the disputed items, and that she bought such items only because she would not have been permitted to appear in court if she did not wear them or other clothes like them.

The disputed items of clothing consisted of perfectly ordinary articles of apparel which many ladies wore from choice. On the basis of their findings of fact, the General Commissioners had to draw an inference and decide whether or not the taxpayer had expended money on her professional wardrobe with a view to serving the purposes of her business.

They concluded that she had two objects in making the expenditure, to serve the purposes of her business, and to serve her own purposes by enabling her properly to be clothed.

Counsel for the taxpayer disclaimed any reliance on the fact that his client disliked dark clothing, never purchased it for private use

and therefore was not in a position to resort to her private wardrobe to answer the requirements of her profession. That disclaimer was rightly made.

It would be absurd to suppose that there existed one law for the blonde barrister who lacked a wardrobe of dark clothes and another law for the brunette barrister whose wardrobe of every-day clothes contained many dresses suitable for court appearances.

It therefore followed, as counsel conceded, that the taxpayer was arguing that if a barrister, male or female, chose to establish a wardrobe of clothes exclusively for working purposes, he or she would be entitled to deduct the cost of its upkeep.

The question then arose whether that beneficial state of affairs would apply to other professional persons and persons in all other walks of self-employed life, and if not why not.

The only distinction that could be drawn was that a barrister who wore unacceptable clothes would find himself barred from pleading in court, as well as risking the loss of the goodwill of his clients, while other professional persons might be subject only to the latter sanction.

It did not seem logical that the right of deduction should depend on the degree of the sanction which induced the professional person to equip himself with suitable clothing. Furthermore, "necessity" was not part of the formula in section 130(a), and therefore the existence of a sanction was totally immaterial.

So there was no reason for concluding that the tradesman would be debarred from maintaining his own wardrobe of clothes for working days if the taxpayer's argument were correct.

Finally, there could be no distinction between top clothes and underclothes and other articles of wearing apparel.

The position was ultimately reached that there was no distinction to be drawn between the position of male and female barristers or between the position of barristers and practitioners of every other trade, profession and vocation or between top clothes, underwear and footwear.

The question was whether there was evidence which entitled the General Commissioners to reach the conclusion that the object of the taxpayer in spending the money was also to serve her private purposes of providing apparel with which to clothe herself.

His Lordship felt driven to answer the question in favour of the taxpayer because he felt constrained by the Commissioners' finding that, in effect, the only object present in the taxpayer's mind was the requirements of her profession. The conscious motive of the taxpayer was decisive.

The reasoning of the Court of Appeal was the same. What was present in the taxpayer's mind at the time of the expenditure concluded the case.

His Lordship was totally unable to accept that narrow approach. Of course the taxpayer thought only of the requirement of her profession when she first bought (as a capital expense) her wardrobe of subdued clothing and, no doubt, as and when she replaced items or sent them to the laundress or the cleaners she would, if asked, have repeated that she was maintaining her wardrobe because of those requirements. It was the natural way that anyone incurring such expenditure would think and speak.

But she needed clothes to travel to work and wear at work and it was inescapable that one object, though not a conscious motive, was the provision of such clothing that she needed as a human being.

His Lordship rejected the notion that the object of a taxpayer was inevitably limited to the particular conscious motive in mind at the moment of the expenditure. The motive of when the taxpayer was conscious was of vital significance but it was not inevitably the only object which the Commissioners were entitled to find to exist.

The Commissioners were not only entitled to reach the conclusion that the taxpayer's object both to serve the purposes of her profession and also to serve her personal purposes, but his Lordship himself would have found it impossible to reach any other conclusion.

It was inevitable that analogies would be canvassed: for example the self-employed nurse who equipped herself with a nurse's uniform. Such cases were matters of fact and degree. In the case of the nurse the material and design of the uniform might be dictated by the practical requirements of the art of nursing and the maintenance of hygiene.

Similar considerations might apply to the self-employed waiter who needed to wear "tails" as an essential part of the equipment of his trade.

The present decision should not raise problems in the "uniform" type of case because it was a matter of degree.

LORD DIPLOCK, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, and Lord Roskill agreed. LORD ELWYN-JONES, dissenting, said that it was not open to the Commissioners in view of their findings of fact as to the taxpayer's purposes to conclude that as the clothing was suitable for private as well as professional use, one of her purposes must have been to spend money on the clothing for her private use.

That would be to disregard the evidence which they accepted as to her actual motive and purpose. That they had found was to enable her to carry on her profession.

Other benefits derived from the expenditure, namely that the clothing also provided her with warmth and decency, were purely incidental to the carrying on of her profession in the compulsory clothing she had to wear.

Solicitors: Penningtons, Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

Cross-summonses cannot be heard together

Regina v Epsom Justices, Ex parte Gibbons
Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Taylor.
[Judgment delivered July 27]

Justices had no power to permit the hearing of cross-summonses together, whether or not the parties consented.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, dismissing Susan Patricia Gibbons' application for judicial review of a decision by the Epsom Justices on April 7, 1983, to hear separately two cross-summonses brought by the applicant and by PC Douglas Corrie, in each case alleging assault.

Mr Alexander Cranbrook for the applicant; Mr Simon Pratt for the constable.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the constable, relying on *Adieu v Watson* ([1973] QB 902), had

asked for the two informations to be tried separately, but the applicant had contended that since they were founded on the same incident, and involved the same evidence, they should be tried together. The justices decided to try them separately.

The applicant now submitted that the justices had been wrong to regard themselves as bound by *Adieu*, and that they had failed to have regard to matters explained in *Clayton v Chief Constable of Norfolk* (*The Times*, March 19, 1983; [1983] 2 WLR 555). But since they had not been referred to it, it was impossible to make that criticism.

In *Adieu*, applying *Brangwynne v Evans* ([1962] 1 WLR 267), it had been held that where separate informations were preferred against two or more persons, justices had no power to try them together without consent. Clearly the justices had assumed that lack of consent by one

party deprived them of their discretion.

The House of Lords, in *Clayton*, reviewing those and other authorities, ruled that lack of consent did not deprive justices of their discretion to proceed in any manner which appeared just, although it was an important consideration. Lord Roskill had stated in clear terms how that discretion had to be exercised, and his Lordship thought justices would be well advised to follow that guidance carefully in similar cases.

The present case differed from the other authorities in that it involved cross-summonses. In those circumstances it would often be wholly impracticable for them to be heard together. How, for example, would a defendant exercise his right of silence and at the same time prosecute the other party? All sorts of complications of evidence and procedure might arise. Further,

there was the danger of cross-summonses being used merely as an unjustifiable weapon of defence.

In those circumstances, *Clayton* did not apply, and his Lordship was persuaded that justices did not have the power to permit the simultaneous trial of cross-summonses, no matter who consented. Accordingly, although for irrelevant reasons, the justices had reached the correct decision, the application would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Spencer Gibson & Son, Sutton; Metropolitan Police Solicitor.

Correction

Judgment in *Gillick v West Norfolk and Wisbech Area Health Authority* (*The Times* July 27) was delivered on July 26. Berrymans were acting London agents for Ollard & Bentley, March.

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بنك من الاصل

Injunctions against Laker

British Airways Board v Laker Airways Ltd and Others
British Caledonian Airways Ltd v Same
Laker Airways Ltd and Another v Secretary of State for Trade and Industry

The Court of Appeal (Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Oliver and Lord Justice Watkins) refused Laker Airways Ltd and the other defendants leave to appeal to the House of Lords against the court's judgment on July 26 (*The Times*, July 27) and against the courts' refusal of Laker's application for judicial review (*The Times*, July 20).

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the court would leave it to the House of Lords to consider whether leave to appeal should be granted.

Injunctions were ordered against Laker and the other defendants including a mandatory order that the defendants see their best endeavours to procure that British Airways and British Caledonian cease to be parties to, in the States active in the Columbia District Court.

The orders were suspended for the time necessary for a petition to the House of Lords for leave to appeal.

THE ARTS

Opera: John Higgins, in Bayreuth, reviews the first two instalments of 'the British Ring'

Wagner's fairy-tale is reaching majestically for the stars

Siegfried Jerusalem (left) as Siegmund - "for an hour or so the Heldentenor had come out of the museum" - Jeannine Altmeyer's Sieglinde matching his passion note for note, and the inexhaustibly resourceful Siegmund Nimmern as Wotan to the Brunnhilde of Hildegard Behrens, "surely the star singer of this Ring"



Inevitably it has been dubbed "the British Ring". In 1976 the French came to Bayreuth under Captain Chéreau, 1983 is the year of the British, with Sir George Solti in the pit and Sir Peter Hall and William Dudley as the production team. All three make their house debuts. Behind comes a posse of half-a-dozen British singers, some of them admittedly in minor parts. And in the foyer of one of the local banks there is an exhibition of the Ring at - where else? - Covent Garden.

On the evidence of the first two evenings of the Ring so far this week it looks like a British victory. The waters of the Rhine washed away the memories of disputes during the four-month rehearsal period and the loss of the tenors for both Siegmund and Siegfried, all fully reported in the German press. The international Heldentenor now seems to have achieved dinosaur status and is found only in museums and on old gramophone records.

The Hall/Dudley approach is signposted the moment the curtain rises on Rheingold. The Ring will be unfolded as a fairy-tale, albeit for the mature, and told via the elements of nature on which Wagner laid so much stress. Others have preferred political elements, but they are nowhere in sight.

Water is already there as the three nude Rhinemaidens splash about on stage. Fire, earth and air will surely follow. The excellent Diana Montague is the tall one. Agnes Haberer and Birgitta Svendenen her smaller, fishy sisters; each one an Esther Williams without the swimsuit. Alberich climbs up from beneath the river to pursue them. It is all done with a tank and reflecting mirrors and the theatrical illusion is spectacular. Hall might have been thought to have had his fill of liquid containers on stage after *Way Upstream*, but Wagner and Ayckbourn are different kettles of fish. And for once Wagner's almost impossible stage directions are carefully followed.

The move from the murky, swirling waters of the Rhine to the hilltop outside Valhalla is into another world. Wotan and Fricka are asleep on a grassy bank like a pair of lovers from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, except that their physical separation is carefully outlined. Dudley has created a platform a few feet above the stage level shaped like a slice of fried lobster or a rectangular sandwich which has lain around for some time, except that its corners curl downwards rather than up. Hall, who ever since *Calisto* at Glyndebourne has been eager to thrust his fingers towards the audience, can tilt the platform down to the Rhine or up to Valhalla. It also conceals and holds back entrances: Frick and Fafner loom over above as they come in search of their reward for building Valhalla, a castle almost as far from the brothers' Götter as the distance.

Hall apparently was asked to provide special insurance for putting

his two bases (Manfred Schenk and Dieter Schweikart, both rich of voice) on stilts and quite rightly declined. The giants have no trouble in climbing around, masked like ogres - the fairy-tale element again - and with Freia (Anita Soldi), a frightened Alice-in-Wonderland figure, scarcely coming up to their hips.

Nibelheim is less spectacular, a Dickensian workhouse where the ape-like Alberich terrorizes his production line monkeys. Hermann Becht makes him a swarthy, villainous factory owner, wallowing in power when he has it, vitriolic in defeat, with the curse, when the ring is snatched from his finger, magnificently spat out. A fine singing actor.

Manfred Jung, replacing Siegfried Jerusalem as Loge, who in turn replaced Dennis Bailey as Siegmund, is a fire fox god with a russet mane. He is a commentator, standing, deliberately, a little outside the production. Jung is a Ring veteran, knowing just how far to press his small but well-focused and excellently articulated tenor; he lacks,

though, the bitchery Heinz Sedlak gave to Loge, the unbridled tongue that says too much.

Wotan and Fricka are the twin bridges between Rheingold and Walküre, and both change markedly with passing time. In the Vorspiel they are a handsome young couple out of love with one another. Siegmund Nimmern, in his Bayreuth debut, makes the Rheingold Wotan a self-regarding man, a chief executive hungry for more power among the gods. Walküre sourness has entered his life and Wotan crumples under Fricka's tirade before picking up again the threads of his tattered authority.

These scenes in the centre of Act II see the first instance of attention slackening in the new Bayreuth Ring. Doris Soffel, so good in Rheingold, found Walküre a different matter. As Fricka the neglected wife her mezzo was fresh and secure, but as the stern guardian of Rhineclad morals, looking as vengeful as Gale Sondergaard in a "B" picture, there were pitch problems.

Nimmern, with seemingly inexhaustible vocal resources, was back on form with the return of Brunnhilde. In Hildegard Behrens Bayreuth surely has the star singer of this Ring. Karajan in Salzburg showed an entirely new Behrens to the opera world when he staged and conducted Salome. Hall and Solti have together created yet another transformation with this, her first Brunnhilde. In shining black leather, with sequined studs, she looks like a Saint Joan calling her amazon army to battle, the difference being, of course, that she fails almost at once. In the long confrontation with Wotan Miss Behrens revealed all the mellowness of tone, flecked with resignation, that suggests hers will be a great Brunnhilde. Nimmern in "Der Augen leuchtendes Paar" showed the passions which his Wotan had earlier so carefully suppressed. If this Ring is to be related as a fairy-tale then it is one with very human emotions.

Earlier in Act I Siegfried-Jerusalem and Jeannine Altmeyer had given a vivid, almost violent demonstration

of sexual attraction as Siegmund and Sieglinde. At the beginning of the week Jerusalem had been a lacklustre Walther in *Meistersinger* - something of that in a later report. Siegmund lies admirably for his voice and for an hour or so the Heldentenor had come out of the museum and back into the theatre. Jeannine Altmeyer matched his vocal passion note for note with her enormous soprano, and in the erotic embrace at the close of Act I it seemed as though Siegfried was being created on the spot.

William Dudley has devised for Hunding (Matthias Hölle) a tree-house which again follows Wagner's directions precisely, a massive trunk in a gloomy forest with double doors which fly open to let in Spring and light. Du bist der Lenz. And rarely has Spring sprung in so fast.

Dudley and Hall close Walküre, just as they opened Rheingold, with a piece of visual magic. Hall has a theatrical fondness for reaching for the stars. So the four Valkyries

appear high above the stage as if from some distant galaxy - in fact they are strapped on to the top slice of Dudley's sandwich - before being revolved down towards the audience and given a sight of the corpses of the heroes being carried into Valhalla. These appear to be as nude as those Rheingold Rhinemaidens, which could give a thrill to any Valkyrie with necrophilic inclinations.

In the pit Sir George Solti's performance has been majestic. Gone is the Solti too full of nervous electricity. Rheingold was carefully restrained, even understated, so that the true passions could flood out in Walküre. They may well turn into a torrent for the final two evenings. The Bayreuth orchestra, which can sometimes sound less than world class, is a finely tuned instrument under Solti, sensitive at every moment to the story being narrated, a fairy-tale for grown-ups told with the aid of modern stage technology. Hall and Dudley at the controls down in the Rhine and up on the misty mountain-top.

Television Frenetic elation

A bright American girl, she met and married an Englishman while on a scholarship to Cambridge. They had two children but the marriage subsequently broke up. She succeeded in killing herself in 1963. And that would be that except, of course, that Sylvia Plath wrote poetry. It was poetry that stuck very close to the raw surface of her self's contact with the world and, inevitably, it has generated a good deal of popular biographical fascination. Where the life ends and the poetry begins was as blurred for her as it has become for her admirers. The poems were jagged, baffled struggles with language which were, above all, startlingly conventional in form because, for all the fury and intensity of her output, she retained an intoxication with the received expressive idea of poetry which limited her verse to harsh, unmediated reactions rather than attainments.

Letters Home (Channel 4) could not have set out the case more plainly. A kind of *Charing Cross Road* with real roads, it was adapted by Rose Cismán Goldberg from Plath's letters largely to her mother, Aurelia. She left behind 696 of them so the life is pretty thoroughly documented. Her wild oscillations of mood, particularly her heartbreakingly optimistic phases, provide all the necessary dramatic tension so Goldberg sensibly kept her expressive devices to the minimum - mother's and daughter's letters were occasionally read simultaneously or in counterpoint, and there was an abstract set consisting of misshapen, cloudy plastic flats behind which Sylvia periodically drifted.

The letters chosen seldom concerned themselves directly with the business of poetry. They were full, however, of her brittle ambition and of a naive and frenetic elation in her new development in her life. Extremities were her speciality. "I'll never speak to God again," she said when her father died. Ted Hughes, her husband, was "the strongest man in the world" and would turn her into a poet "the world will gaze at". Her mother responded as best she could, but always with some inkling that Sylvia was bound for disaster.

It is a terrible story made more terrible by the banality of context revealed by the letters - the babies, the carpets for her new London flat, the cooker unconnected when she moved in - and it all worked surprisingly well on television primarily because Anna Nigh as Sylvia and June Brown as Aurelia both looked right and managed to inject a high degree of expressive flexibility and nuance into the crude highs and lows of the letters. But, above all, the fidelity and power of the production succeeded, perhaps in spite of its own intentions, in making clear that the poetry was too entwined with the disorder, that finally the more extravagant claims made for it only betray the persistent critical need to see art as, if not mimetic, than at least symptomatic.

Being Normal (BBC 1) was a play that began from the laudable position of wanting to publicize the problems of growth hormone deficiency, a childhood condition which restricts growth unless treated. It was aimed at the medical and teaching professions, both of whom, it was suggested, are inclined to dismiss parental fears. In principle such consumerist designs on the professions are to be applauded. Unfortunately in this case Brian Friel's inimitably lugubrious treatment could not be salvaged even by actors of the calibre of David Suchet and Anna Carteret, and the message went undelivered.

Irving Wardle Bryan Appleyard

Concerts Invented space

BBCPO/Downes
Albert Hall/Radio 3

The first of the several works commissioned for the Proms by the BBC had its world premiere on Tuesday from the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra. Elizabeth Maconchy's *Music For Strings* proved to be a distinguished (and also enjoyable) contribution to a tradition that goes back, in modern times, to Elgar's *Introduction and Allegro*. Not that it was ever, despite its frequently elegiac tone, self-consciously English.

The first movement, basically *moderato*, had many changes of emphasis, and solo lines detached themselves from time to time. But the textures were usually full, and in the best sense heavy - with the weight of meaning. The Scherzo was mainly pizzicato and there was a return to intense emotion with the third movement, a *resto*.

Here again individual voices were heard from, yet the ensemble dominated with the same expressive richness as in the opening movement. By now we had realized that it was the music's feeling of spaciousness which made its emotional intensity allowable, its vehicle being a prolific but disciplined invention. This last was most evident in Miss Maconchy's finale, which in some ways moved to be the liveliest and most powerful movement.

The performance, under the BBC Philharmonic's principal

conductor, Edward Downes, was admirable. Those who want to hear this piece again should tune in to Radio 3 on Saturday night.

Next came Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 4, a largely misunderstood work. Trouble usually arises from its inherent attitudes, which is to say its elliptical structure, the shifting indirectness of many of its statements, their elusiveness heightened by the directness of others. Howard Shelley, the soloist, was fully attuned to the lyricism which prevails here, cooler than in Rachmaninov's other concertos, and the ironic effect sometimes produced by a curtailment of keyboard heroics.

A beautiful instance of the latter occurs in the first movement when the music swerves into the *poco meno mosso*, yet understatement is nowhere more likely to be misinterpreted than in the Largo's long dialogue, in short phrases between piano and orchestra. The finale seems less equivocal, at least initially, and Mr Shelley maintained a sparkling clarity amid the racing semiquavers.

Not much room is left to discuss Mr Downes's finely proportioned reading of Dvorak's Symphony No 6. Here the BBC Philharmonic acquitted itself splendidly, and really got going in the Scherzo, which takes the form of a funfair, once defined as "an uppish fellow's dance".

Max Harrison

with the musical use of piano virtuosity, and Miss Scharapan's playing of the initial Presto well reflected this music's confident assertiveness.

Intensity was the main point of the slow movement, but there was no doubt about the performer's ability to sustain a long line. Beethoven's dramatic switches of texture notwithstanding, in the finale, as in the Trio of the Minuet, some of the composer's outbursts were taken to undue extremes, disrupting the acute sense of scale that was evident earlier in this interpretation.

The Beethovenian affinities of the first movement of Schubert's Sonata, D959, were made pretty apparent, too, yet the result was still an exactly focused account of the music's storm and stress. The outer sections of the Andantino were poised but did not create quite the effect of distance that is essential if the proper feeling of rapt contemplation is to come across. Yet in the finale the several brief invasions of silence before the coda were exquisitely timed.

Max Harrison

Theatre Happy Family Duke of York's

Giles Cooper was without doubt the finest radio dramatist this country has produced, and one sadness of his premature death in 1966 is that it virtually coincided with the appearance of this piece, in which he seemed poised for an equal conquest of the stage.

Much of Cooper's work consists of a malevolently comic exorcism of his early experience of public school and the regular Army; and never more so than in this chilling study of unnaturally prolonged childhood. You have only to visit a reunion dinner to witness the features of the bully and the sneak lurking under the double chins and civil manners of the old boys who have gone up in the world.

What Cooper does with the three siblings who comprise the happy family is to eliminate the social disguise altogether. As they were in the nursery, so they are now. Big brother Mark keeps his two sisters in comfortable seclusion through looking after their stocks, and shares. Money keeps the world at bay. And, although they live at widely separated addresses, they talk (like Sir George Sitwell looking over a crowded industrial valley to a mansion on the next hilltop) as though there were nobody else in the world.

The play brings them together at the country house of the younger sister, Deborah, and plunges them into the same fun and games they have been enjoying ever since Nanny's time.

There are nicknames, and



Piercing comedy for the bewildered intruder: Angela Thorne (left), Stephanie Beacham, Ian Ogilvy, James Laurensen

private baby-talk and much talk of punishments. Within the first few minutes Mark goes through the roof on discovering a Meccano dropside cot which Deborah has made with some of his pieces; for which offence he threatens her with the dreaded "Punishment Box". When challenged over this he loses face by having to admit that after all the years of intimidation there is no such punishment.

That detail is the first with which Cooper gets his action moving. First he shows these middle-aged children locked in their fossilized rituals; then he shows their efforts to escape into a world where they may be other people. The agent of this

attempted change is a young man, Gregory, whom the elder sister, Duchess, introduces as her fiancé.

To Mark, this intruder - like everyone outside the family - is nobody. He subjects him to ceaseless hostile interrogation that finally exposes him as a shop-assistant; but not before Gregory has switched affections to the other sister, leaving them both feeling that they have lost their last chance of escape. Whereupon the nursery tea resumes with the sense of a prison door closing for ever.

Maria Aitken's production (launching a new management, Dramatis Personae Limited)

Dance

Royal Ballet
Covent Garden

Emanuel Young, who conducted *The Two Pigeons* on Tuesday, returns to the end of this week after 33 years at Covent Garden: the first time with the opera company, and since then with the ballet. The standard of orchestral playing for ballet at the Royal Opera House has been the subject of frequent comment in this and other papers, more often than not unfavourable, and the conductors - all of them - must take a share of the blame. But it has not been all bad, and Young's positive contribution deserves credit.

He has always had (or so it seemed to me, judging purely as a listener) a special affinity for

romantic music. The best *Sleeping Beauty* I heard this season was his, and from his opera days *La Bohème* sticks in the memory. French romantic music, in him a delight he was able to communicate to audiences; his *Coppelia* was pretty, delicate and spirited, and his obvious enthusiasm for Messiaen's music makes *Pigeons* an apt choice for his farewell appearance.

There was more liveliness than finesse in the playing, but the music supported the ballet's comic aspects and rose to the delicate sentiment of the slow, ardent last duet. On stage, the most notable performers were the two trained doves who do not quite have the title parts. They seemed determined to seize the attention by spending as much time as possible in the

wrong places and repeatedly getting into position only at the crucial last moment. Only Lesley Collier and Genesia Rosato as the rival leading women succeeded in not being upstaged by them.

Collier was also one of the soloists in the evening's other work, *Four Schumann Pieces*, nicely contrasted with Jennifer Penney and Wayne Eagling as the rivals for Anthony Dowell's attention in the dramatic third movement. The playing by the Lindsay String Quartet was not perhaps the most persuasive one can imagine of Schumann's *A Major Quartet* (Op 41 No 3), but Dowell's swift brilliance in the last movement and the intensity of his more reminiscent manner earlier in the ballet carried the day.

John Percival

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GAME FAIR NUMBER

What to See at the Game Fair J.N.P. Watson previews some of the important events and displays.

Cock of the Woods Don and Bridget MacCaskill's observations of the capercaillie, a woodland bird that can survive only in old Scots pine forests.

Air-Rifle Shooting: Ethics and the Law An assessment by John Richards, of the British Association for Shooting and conservation.

Stalking on the Hills Richard Prior, of the Game Conservancy, writes about the role of sport in preserving Scotland's wilderness areas.

Archers in the 1980s The president of the National Archery Society, D.G. Stamp, looks at the future of field and target archery.

Flight of the Atlantic Salmon A.C. Coombs investigates the decline in salmon numbers.

COUNTRY LIFE
ON SALE NOW

Flower power to the people

If anyone in Italy should ask why the nerve-racking, sleep-depriving job of prime minister looks attractive, the best response would be: ask Bettino Craxi.

He is almost certain to get the post and, almost uniquely, he can be seen to have willed his way towards it from the moment he took over leadership of the ailing Socialist Party in July 1976. This singleness of purpose distinguishes Signor Craxi from most Italians who have been invited to form a government.

It is a distinction greater than the fact that his success would bring the first Socialist ever to the prime ministership. Certainly, plenty of earlier leaders of the 40 or more post-war governments arrived after a career passed in the search for high office. Some got there because they were temporarily the strongest among the ruling class of the dominant Christian Democrat Party; others almost by accident, or because of some lucky set of circumstances. A further few found the reins of office in their grasp because some sort of historical destiny brought an impudent finger into the complexities of the political game and touched an outsider.

Most prime ministers begin to fail quite quickly, coming and going at an average of nearer eight months than a year. They may fall by being too energetic, just as they may stay by scarcely being prime minister at all and so avoiding the tensions that activity inevitably brings to a coalition. And some even go because their success is resented.

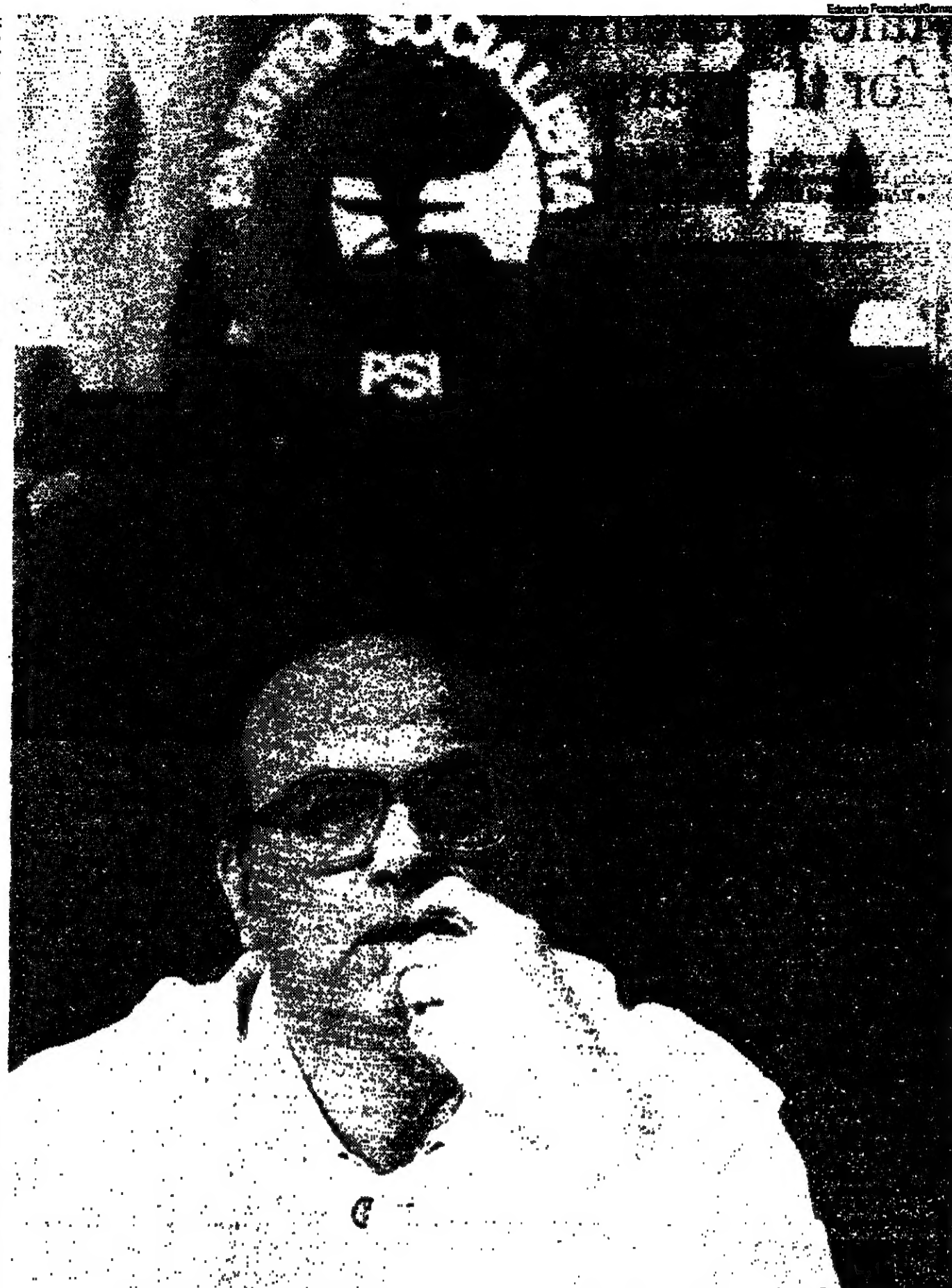
Craxi is still just under 50, unusually tall, with a reputation for remoteness in making his decisions, and a sure hand at accumulating around him the fragments from which in Italian conditions the realities of power are made. He has been a politician all his working life, starting as a party official before even waiting to take a degree.

He was born in Milan but the origins of his family are in Sicily. It is a familiar name, in different spellings, in the Messina area. Craxi himself speaks of one branch talked of locally as having descended from 'a king's son', which may mean that a lady of this particular Craxi line was more than a good friend of Ferdinand IV during his exile from Naples in 1799.

His father Vittorio called his first son Benedetto, but he immediately became known as Bettino, a diminutive which has stayed with him all his life despite its old-fashioned ring. The father was and remains a convinced socialist and was confirmed in his anti-communism by his experience as a candidate for Parliament immediately after the war, when a pact of unity of action still existed between the Communist and Socialist parties. The son's strange nickname made some of the wishful thinkers among his enemies suggest that his real name had been not Benedetto but Benito.

Persistent efforts have, in fact, been made to compare him with Mussolini who, of course, began his political life as a socialist. Cartoonists frequently show Craxi in Fascist uniform and it is a coincidence in his early life that, shortly after Mussolini's death, his father was appointed prefect of Como, where the broken dictator passed his last hours. That childhood experience should have warned Bettino off right-wing adventures.

The background of his father's lawyer's office and socialist friends meant that he knew many heroes of the



The Times Profile: Bettino Craxi

resistance movement. They included Sandro Pertini, now President and a lifelong Socialist too, but of a different generation and stamp from Craxi. Pertini was present during the two great changes in the country's political leadership. In June 1981 he invited Giovanni Spadolini to form the first government since the war, led by a prime minister who was not a Christian Democrat. Spadolini is a Republican. The choice has now gone to a Socialist and if Craxi has been denied an absolute first he was at least asked to try his hand in 1979. Then he failed but his efforts were useful to him

in bringing him closer to President Pertini, who before had been cold towards him.

The Christian Democrat loss of their monopoly of the prime ministership ushered in the second great change. As the dominant party began to lose its once seemingly eternal function of leadership, the institutional weaknesses surrounding the executive became clearer. They were always there but less obvious when the prime minister came from the predominant party.

Craxi recognized this problem early. He also saw the difficulties it brought for Spadolini, a man of great working

capacity and energy who nevertheless was severely handicapped as prime minister by the fact that his Republican Party was small. Putting aside the personal antipathies which Craxi arouses, and fears about his autocratic manner, he can be fairly said to have dealt with this fundamental problem of the executive within his own party in a convincing way. He has never, however, held any ministerial office.

When he was elected secretary in July 1976, he had 10 per cent of the party's right wing behind him and his incautious elders predicted a brief term of office for him. He won the vital

national congress in 1981 with 70 per cent of the vote and he had, in the meantime, turned his party from what looked in 1976, at the height of Communist advances, practically a relic of the past, into an efficiently managed modern group.

He has discarded Marx in favour of Proudhon's view that communism would "Asiatize European civilisations", and has replaced the hammer and sickle with the red carnation as the Socialist Party's symbol. He imposed one policy - his own, of course - on a party traditionally ambivalent especially towards communism. His position as secretary has, since then, been totally safe so long as his methods attract a bigger popular vote.

What has been called the "Craxi effect" looked set to put wind in plenty in the Socialist sails. But in the general election last month, which Craxi himself imposed, his showing was a disappointment. This was partly due to a series of scandals involving leading Socialists in Piedmont.

The more popular Spadolini gained handsomely. Worse from Craxi's point of view was the failure of his fundamental argument: the logic of all he has done, including friendship with the Americans and acceptance of the cruise missiles should lead the Socialists to increase their votes substantially and at the expense of the communists. Last month they did neither.

In this sense it can be argued that Craxi should not have been offered the prime ministership at all. But that would be too literal a reading. The politicians are still not inclined to measure a direct connection between elections and the sort of government they feel the country should have. Craxi, moreover, gained in real power as a result of Christian Democrat losses. He commands only a little more than 10 per cent of the popular vote but because of parliamentary arithmetic his party is essential to any acceptable coalition.

Craxi draws advantages from what his adversaries condemn as its defects. He is criticized for placing power before ideology. The Communists, who call him "Nihil" or "Mr Nothing", see him as an enemy instead of the potential partner they would like in a left-wing coalition to force the Christian Democrats into opposition.

Fears about his alleged resemblance to Mussolini leave out of account the fact that he cannot rule as prime minister without a broad coalition behind him consisting of leaders of other parties who will watch him with suspicion. This is not the terrain from which dictators emerge, unless the system itself should collapse. And what he is bringing to it - which essentially is an awareness of power and its uses - may very well help to strengthen the executive.

The ailing office of prime minister, as well as the issue of relations between the executive and Parliament, are subjects which could well benefit from Craxi's experience and, for that matter, from his high-handedness.

It may be time for a man who can use the phrase which sounds so brutal in the framework of Italy's convoluted political life: I have great respect for those who study the stars, but unfortunately I have the unpleasant vice of believing only in what I see. He is presumably saying: "merits, as much as defects, can be looked for within ourselves and not in our stars, or even in our ideologies". Not being starry-eyed is what the "Craxi effect" really means.

Peter Nichols

moreover...
Miles Kingston

A close shave for Andropov

There were jubilant scenes in Russia earlier this week when Yuri Andropov was found innocent on a charge of using a small American girl for unethical purposes. If he had been found guilty there could have been heavy penalties, especially for the judge and lawyers.

The first transcript of the trial is beginning to leak through, and we are proud to bring you an exclusive extract today. It has been declared authentic over the phone by more than 40 historians.

Counsel: Your name?

Andropov: Yuri Andropov.

Counsel: Your profession?

Andropov: Head of the Soviet Union, president of the Moscow Parks Committee, Honorary Colonel of the Massed Band of the KGB.

Counsel: Thank you, one job will do. Is there any truth in the rumour that your flat is stacked high with Glenn Miller records?

Judge: I do not see what this has to do with the case.

Counsel: Nothing, comrade judge, but it is something the whole world is dying to know.

Judge: Some other time, perhaps.

Counsel: Quite. Now, Mr Andropov, did you or did you not issue an invitation to a young American girl recently to be your guest in the USSR?

Andropov: I did.

Counsel: Were the words of your invitation: "Come to Moscow and I will show you a good time"?

Andropov: No, I said to her: "Come to Moscow and I will show you that Russia does not want war".

Counsel: And you seriously suggesting that you and a teenage American girl exchanged letters about the international situation?

Andropov: Yes. She wrote to me first.

Counsel: This becomes more and more ludicrous. You now expect us to believe that a small girl in America wrote to you about the arms race, and that you wrote back inviting her for further talks?

Andropov: Yes.

Counsel: There are 10 million little girls in Russia, Mr Andropov. Why did you not write to one of them?

Andropov: Because they did not write to me first.

Counsel: Perhaps they did not have your address, Mr Andropov. Perhaps nobody in Russia has your address. Yet you ask the court to believe that this little girl in America knew your address. Had you perhaps been advertising in American magazines for little girls to be your pen-pals?

Andropov: This suggestion is outrageous.

Counsel: Perhaps you actually prefer American girls, Mr Andropov? Do you prefer the sun-tanned freckled, pretty American teenager to our pale but dumpy beauties?

Andropov: This is absolutely monstrous.

Judge: The line of questioning is dubious, Mr Andropov, but it cannot be denied that you have been writing to little American girls, and not to Russian girls. I think we ought to be told why.

Counsel: Perhaps I can put it another way. When the rest of the praesidium want to know how talks with the Americans are getting on, do you mention the fact that although not in contact with the White House you are writing to a small American girl about things?

Andropov: I do not think it would interest them.

Counsel: I see. You have concealed all this from the praesidium. Have you talked it over with Mrs Andropov?

Andropov: Yes, of course.

Counsel: I hope she was understanding. We shall find that out in a moment, when Mrs Andropov takes the stand to talk about your private life. Meanwhile, may I ask if you have ever corresponded with young American boys about the arms race, or indeed invited them to Russia?

Andropov: No.

Counsel: Well, thank heaven for small mercies.

(The case was adjourned at this point for new prosecuting counsel to be found.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 113)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

- ACROSS
- 1 Sectional building (6)
 - 5 Set of arches (6)
 - 8 Increases (3)
 - 9 Rabbit tunnels (6)
 - 10 Japanese garment (6)
 - 11 Eye infection (4,4)
 - 12 Uttered (6)
 - 15 Hard (6)
 - 17 Popular record (5,3)
 - 20 Agreement (4)
 - 22 Puts (6)
 - 23 More secret (6)
 - 24 Foot digit (3)
 - 25 Sad (6)
 - 26 Calm (6)
- DOWN
- 2 Act reciprocally (5)
 - 3 Penalty (7)
 - 4 Tiered sleeper (4,3)
 - 5 Awry (5)
 - 6 Head design brooch (5)
 - 7 Dampst (7)
 - 14 Drinking glass (7)
 - 15 Brings back (7)
 - 16 Spiked (7)
 - 18 Foot coverings (5)
 - 19 Speed (5)
 - 21 Swindle (5)

SOLUTION TO No 112

ACROSS: 1 Repeat 4 Module 7 Book 8 Ultimate 9 Drunkard 12 Set 15 Where 16 Way out 17 Bay 19 Hen party 24 Juvenile 25 Meow 26 Ferret 27 Sublim

DOWN: 1 Robe 2 Propriety 3 Truck 4 Meter 5 Dame 6 Lathe 10 North 11 Drama 12 Short term 13 Tact 14 Swab 18 Amuse 20 Evict 21 Press 22 Deer 23 Snow

Where wet is high fashion

In archaeology, the wets are winning. The Mary Rose has been the most spectacular example of the success of wet archaeology, but a number of other projects emphasize that it is now in fashion. The trouble with wet archaeology is the expense: it is much more expensive to undertake than archaeology on dry land, while the conservation of artefacts afterwards is even more expensive. But the rewards are commensurately greater. Under normal conditions, change and decay rapidly reduces all but the toughest materials - flints and pot sherds - to dust, and it is only where it is very dry (as in the desert) or in the wet that wood, and all the other organic materials, are preserved. Professor John Coles, the doyen of wet archaeology, has



Conserving leather items from the Mary Rose's watery grave

estimated that though wet archaeology may cost four times as much as dry archaeology, the rewards are ten times as great.

Although the most spectacular wet archaeology is done underwater, equally remarkable results can be obtained on dry land, by

excavating in peat bogs and other waterlogged areas. Thus on the London waterfront the Roman and Medieval timber quays have been found, still in pristine condition, while in Viking York the remains of the timber houses were preserved 20 feet below the modern (dry) surface. Yet most wetland archaeology tends to take place in the peatbogs, and it is here that much recent work has been concentrated.

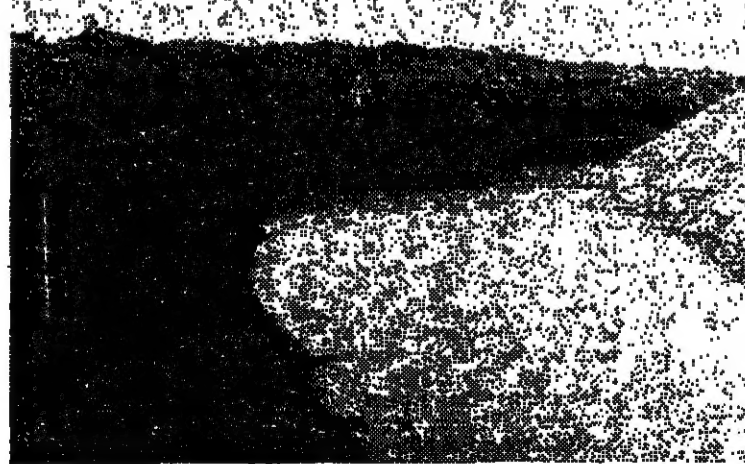
Fen disaster

The latest discovery in wet archaeology comes from the other side of the country, from the fens that extend from Peterborough to the Wash. It has always been assumed that the Fens were uninhabited until they were drained by the Romans, but archaeologists have suddenly realised that they were wrong: the alluvium was in fact laid down in the Iron Age and under it there is a Neolithic and Bronze Age landscape, often extremely well preserved. The new theory is that while some of the flooding was caused by the rising sea level, some of it represents an ecological disaster and the finger of suspicion points at that great technical revolution of the early Iron Age, winter ploughing.

Corn grows quicker if it is planted in the early winter and allowed to hibernate, but this winter ploughing - so the theory runs - caused the fertile top soil of Northamptonshire to be washed away and be deposited as alluvium over the nearer parts of the Fens, burying the earlier landscapes. Thus the archaeologists have taken to walking the drainage dykes, following the dredgers and looking for the archaeology three feet below the surface.

Forts at sea

In a recent issue of Current Archaeology Francis Pryor explains how he made his latest discovery, an artificial platform of late Bronze Age at Flag Fen, near Peterborough. Shortly before Christmas, walking a dyke he found timber projecting out



Bronze Age platform in the side of a drainage ditch

of the side. At first he thought it was a trackway, but when he found that the traces extended for more than 100 metres he realized it must be something more substantial. No pottery was found to date it, but a rushed radiocarbon date from the British Museum came out at 660 bc, so it looks as if it was an artificial platform, probably defensive, set in the open fenland and surrounded by water - at least in winter.

Other sites have also been located. One is a moated site, known as St Pega's Monastery. If it was a monastery, then the good saint must have been able to swim, says Francis Pryor sardonically, for it would have been very wet in the Middle Ages. In fact, Iron Age pottery has been found under the alluvium, and it is clearly an Iron Age hill fort, if indeed one can apply the term "hill fort" to a site that is only two metres above sea level. Some of the sites are even older. At Etton, a Neolithic causewayed camp has been discovered. Unfortunately a gravel quarry is approaching so

archaeologists are desperately excavating what they can before it is swallowed up by the machines, or just as bad, before it is de-watered. As the gravel quarries lower the water level the vital wooden objects will dry out and crumble to dust.

Making tracks

The classic area of wet archaeology is in the Somerset Levels, around Glastonbury. This low lying area has for the past 5,000 years been accumulating the peat with which you fertilize your gardens. In a Neolithic and Bronze Age the growing peatbog was criss-crossed with wooden trackways, and these are constantly being sliced up by the peat cutting machines. Bryony Orme and Professor John Coles have been following these trackways, discovering in the process the oldest trackway in the world, the so-called Sweet Track, built around 4000 BC.

The big surprise has been the high quality of Neolithic carpentry, in particular people at that time

were practising coppicing the deliberate control of woodland in order to produce withies in standardized sizes for the mass-production of wattle on a grand scale. A complete trackway, the Walton track, was discovered built entirely of wattle hurdling. This showed not only their skill in woodworking, but also their expert forestry management. Recently a small museum has been set up at the Willows Garden Centre on the Shapwick-Westhay road.



Eclipse Track near Meare

As always there is also a political aspect to wet archaeology, on the whole archaeologists are hardened to the destruction of archaeological sites, and are resigned to excavating where they cannot preserve. Yet there is a growing feeling that much of the drainage in the Somerset Levels and in Sedgemoor is not financially viable: the water board having got the bit between its teeth, is draining for the sake of draining, and the cost of the drainage is out of all proportion to the potential agricultural returns. Since the drainage is destroying the archaeology - to say nothing of the wild life - this looks like being the next political "cause" for archaeologists.

Andrew Selkirk

Wheels within

The Prehistoric society recently held a conference on European Wetlands in prehistory, the well-known Alpine lake-villages continue to be explored, with contributions from Italy, France and Switzerland. There was a fascinating account of excavations under the new Zurich opera house, where Neolithic and Bronze Age lake dwellings unexpectedly came to light. Prehistoric trackways are also found in north Germany where they seem to specialize in the discovery of wooden wheels that fell off the carts (why have they not found any wheels in Somerset?)

But the most spectacular contribution came from Denmark, which has been tilling since the last ice age, the north-west rising, the south-east falling, and at Tybrind Vig a submerged mesolithic settlement has been discovered under the sea. Here divers found wooden fish hooks with the lines still attached by clove hitches, as well as 15 bows and a complete boat, a dug out canoe made from the trunk of a lime tree and dating to 3500 bc. Their prize fund consisted of two carved oars representing a new art form of the earliest inhabitants of northern Europe.

Fair deduction

The famous Iron Age lake villages at Glastonbury and Meare are much later in date than the trackways, but they present a problem: why on earth should anyone live in such damp conditions? And why were they so wealthy? It is said that more glass beads have been found here than on any other domestic site in southern England. The latest theory is that it was not a permanently occupied village at all, but the site of a temporary summer fair. The remote position of Glastonbury, far away from the centres of power, is precisely where such fairs are often found.

سكتا من الامل

BOOKS

Word storm

The Death of Virgil by Hermann Broch

Translated by Jean Starr Intermeyer
Oxford, £3.95

Instead of taking *Lost Illusions* and *Daniel Deronda* away as usual for your fat read this summer, pack Hermann Broch's astonishing novel of 1945. You will not find it easy - could not claim to do justice to the richness of its argument in inventiveness reading it for the first time - but you will have the kind of time required to savour its uniqueness and, if you enter *The Death of Virgil* by the front door, you will find an evening you might even call clean away.

It still shudders in the depths of waters, but with tiny dark waves it began to filter word, everywhere in the mirror of sea, in the mirror of the sea, are undisturbable from the light came no longer in above, it hung in itself, and so, it was luminous but no longer illuminated anything, so that in the landscape over which it hung seemed confined in its own.

Augustus is landing at Brundisium after a trip to Greece. Broch is a brilliant descriptive writer, and the book contains numerous passages of great lucidity and vigour: an octopus sky, a harmonious ride of animals, a shipload of sea-servant gluttons, a small man filled with clawed and ailed furies, the creak of cart-tires for market in the dead of the night. This reality tests the flexibility of resourcefulness of the glish language to the utmost, the text is passed.

That *The Death of Virgil* has been quite managed to establish itself in a country where, as Leonard Levin remarks in an enthusiastic introduction, iters like Kafka, Thomas Mann, and Hermann Hesse are honoured in theory than practice, is certainly not the act of the translation, on which Jean Starr Intermeyer, who translated Broch's work with Broch for nearly 30 years. The result must be of the finest ever to flow between the English and German languages.

Broch was born in Vienna in 1876, which makes him the last contemporary of Josephine, Harold Nicolson, and the near-contemporary of Berg, Varèse, Pound, Edith Sitwell, and Broch, and Edwin Muir, who translated Broch's work. The *Death of Virgil* was written in 1942. He was a late comer to an Austrian Jew who, until 1927, Broch had been a family textile business until 1927. Broch then turned to mathematics, physics, and psychology at the University, later settling in Italy to write full time. He seems to have been an exceptional man.

Attracted by the Nazis after Anschluss, Broch fled from Austria with the help of friends, first to the United States, and then to the Soviet Union. He completed *The Death of Virgil* while in the Soviet Union, and it was published in 1951. Broch's *Virgil*, mortally ill at age of 51, has been brought to Italy by his patron, the manuscript of the

Aeneid in a box by his side. Most of the novel unfolds inside the poet's mind, as he questions the nature of existence, perception, love, and art in the last moments of his *Virgil*-life. He concludes that all art is trivial and that because it can only describe the human element of creation, the *Aeneid* must be destroyed. ("Nothing unreal will survive"). There are other reasons: as art, the poem stands dangerously close to the State that engendered it; if it is published it will make him immortal and he will be unable to die - unable to venture on to the "second immensity", to the "word beyond speech".

That words constitute mere trickery is, of course, the nicest paradox of the novel for Broch sets out to prove the poet's case and his journey to the word beyond speech with the only means at his disposal: words. A great showering storm of words piles clause upon clause and sentence upon sentence for more than 400 pages. The eye at first searches avidly for the full stops among the mass of characters and devices of writer's virtuosity - repetition, reversion, contradiction and elaboration. Images of movement, journeying, metamorphosis and transformation and ceaseless change inform the narrative, which is one reason why the reader's eye and mind, far from drowning in the flood, begins to strike out, stay afloat and swim.

Another is that the prose-poetry is so musical in feeling and form that you could almost define the musical tempo of any given paragraph, and those gifted to detect such things, will hear its key. *The Death of Virgil* is built like a late Romantic symphony in two enormous central movements framed by a dynamic introduction and a coda of consummation as the protagonist finally dies. It displays close affinities not only to the accumulated sound-visions of Mahler, but to the riddles of Nietzsche, the moon-struck landscapes of Max Ernst, the layered horizons of Klee, the voyage from Ireland and the sail towards oblivion in the first and second acts of *Tristan and Isolde*, the paint-imagery of Gustav Klimt.

... and music... drifted back from the kingdom of the palace like transparent strips of veiling, bearing all devices with cymbal points...

I mention these names to show the kind of company Broch keeps as an artist of his time. The breakdown of verbal communication variously explored in the works of Kafka, Musil, Schoenberg, Joyce, Dada, and Caneu (*Auto-da-fé*) precedes *The Death of Virgil* by ten years. Broch is on to the next stage of staring the irrational unfathomability of the human experience in the face. Describing the indescribable, visualizing what is normally only heard, are part of the enormous ambition of his book. *The Death of Virgil* is the Rome of Augustus seen through the Vienna of Hermann Broch. It proposes the end of empire and the dissolution of art with the greatest virtuosity. Try the first 30 pages first.

Michael Ratcliffe



Royal symbols. Henry, Prince of Wales, not playing billiards but fighting at the barriers, engraved by William Hole, 1612. Elizabeth by Francis Delarum after Hilliard, c 1617-19. Elizabeth, Electress Palatine, and her son, Frederick Henry, by Hilliard, c 1615.

Icons and images for propaganda

The English Renaissance Miniature

By Roy Strong

(Thames & Hudson, £18)

Art, being notoriously never pure and seldom simple, we should not be surprised that the main practitioners of the miniature in Tudor and early Stuart times emerge from Sir Roy Strong's authoritative new study as importantly political figures, or at least as important tools of politicians. The creation and maintenance of the correct royal image was a major concern in the country at the time: every picture tells a story, and the story the approved images of a returned but unchallengeable Henry VIII or a beautiful and immortal youthful Elizabeth I told was vital to keeping the political balance. These were icons, with a symbolic significance far beyond themselves, and were approached accordingly by their creators.

Character, private character as conveyed by the face and stance of a sitter, had nothing to do with it - not as long as the employment of leading miniaturists remained a royal prerogative, if not monopoly. It is very noticeable that in the "show of the book", *Artists of the Tudor Court*, in which the Victoria and Albert is exhibiting most of the more important examples, the most vivid likenesses tend to be of children (where presumably the image had not yet hardened) and of a succession of "unknown gentlemen". Though, inevitably, we shall continue to think of the Elizabethan miniature largely in terms of its two great figures, Hilliard and Oliver, Sir Roy has unearthed and defined a couple of important predecessors, Lucas Hornebolte, who helped to drag the miniature out of the margins of manuscripts and into a frame of its own, and Levin Teutling, who was in effect Mary I's official limner and seems to have taught Hilliard.

Both of these, like Hilliard himself, were essentially medieval artists, working in a remote provincial tradition. Oliver, who went to Italy in his thirties, was in contrast Britain's first Renaissance artist, and seems, extraordinarily precocious as he was, to have caught on to Continental taste and practice long before the firsthand encounter. The clear drawing of this distinction between the equal, rival reputations of Hilliard and Oliver is one of the book's most useful achievements, since it directs our attention, after we have come to understand the political background and all that, back to those aesthetic considerations which are finally no less important than their context. If we understand the implications of these jewel-like images more clearly, we also end up looking at the things themselves more sharply: the proper balance is, after all, well held.

John Russell Taylor

Entirely professional

And We Shall Shock Them

The British Army in the Second World War

By David Fraser

(Hodder & Stoughton, £12.95)

It seems only a short while since I was reviewing in these columns Sir David's widely acclaimed official biography of Alanbrooke, yet here is another extraordinarily difficult task encompassed - a survey of the performance of the British Army in every theatre during six years of war. This is a rate of productivity which British soldiers might envy. It is enviable, because this is not just a book job. Page after page discloses the result of a deep, dispassionate weighing up of men and the *eminences grises* of the Ministry of Defence should put it straight on their reading lists.

We may take as read all that Sir David writes in praise of battles long ago and the men who lost or won them. The most constructively valuable aspect of the book is its refusal to make excuses: his running

commentary on what was wrong with the Army, in too many places for too many years. Why was it that until about halfway through the war we had but a handful of British divisions in contact with the enemy and only one victory, over Italians, to our credit? If the public and the politicians refused to provide enough tools, Sir David rightly reminds us that it was the pre-war amateurism, pervasive throughout much of the Army, that enabled our operations until master-mangers like Montgomery and Slim imposed their will. Now is Sir David afraid to point a finger at politicians, criminality, incompetence: his is not an army of angels.

But even an open-minded general can suffer from tunnel-vision. It can be argued that an army is as good as its intelligence. Sir David is not expansive about the handling of intelligence within the army itself - by no means always beyond reproach - and though he tips his hat occasionally at Ultra he gives no real impression of the incessant flow of hard information about the enemy that poured from Blenheim Park to headquarters in the field. He is cool, for example, about Auchinleck's handling of "First Alamein": the effect would be icier if he had pointed out that the Ark was receiving, literally, hundreds of Ultra signals giving him Rommel's strength and intentions.

The British Army appears in *vacuo* in another sense. Considering that its achievements are inconceivable without the Russian killing-ground and the masses of American manpower, Sir David might have examined much more thoroughly the problems for us "rough islanders" of fighting, against Napoleon and the Kaiser, a coalition war. Still he makes conclusively his central point. "Providence, the extraordinary course of events, and the mistakes of the enemy provided time for the army to make good its mistakes, repair and restart the machine and drive it to ultimate triumph. The men who composed the British Army in the Second World War learned their trade and became entirely professional."

Ronald Lewin

Oh, Sir Jasper, do not...

The Complete Baronetage by George Edward Cokayne

(Alan Sutton, £75)

Where would the British historian be without recourse to that authoritative work, *The Complete Peerage*, originally compiled by G. E. Cokayne? This was reassessed last year in microprint, and now the same publisher has similarly brought out G.E.C.'s other work, *The Complete Baronetage*. Though six volumes have been compressed into one it may be read without any visual aids. He compiled his *Baronetage* between 1900 and 1905, only laying his pen aside after dealing with creations of 1800, by which time he had reached his 86th year; but, unlike the *Peerage*, this work never realised a second edition. With only 206 subscribers, scarcity has made it a virtually forgotten quarry.

In 1611 James I instituted the Baronetage for those who paid the equivalent of 30 soldiers' wages for three years in the

colonization of Ulster. Irish baronets followed in 1619, and seven years later Charles I tempted Scotsmen to participate in a similar scheme in the new world. Terms were offered for Baronetries of Nova Scotia, together with grants of 16,000 acres apiece. As takers found it impossible to reach their lands, by a legal fiction they took possession on Edinburgh's Castle Hill, conveniently designated a part of Nova Scotia. Grants ceased when in 1632 the province was ceded to France, but these baronets lasted until the Union with England.

There are several black borders signifying self-assumed "baronets". A few of these came to grief. An Edinburgh tailor, John Blackader (sic), had the temerity to assume the family baronetcy although coming from a bastard branch. In 1737 he was sentenced to have his ears nailed to the post for perjury. Most got away with it, some even being recognized at court or in naval and military gazettes. Editors of Baronetages, we should have known better, included them with bona fide baronets. A naval architect grandly announced in 1877, "I

hereby make known that I shall hereafter... be known by the name, rank, style and title of Sir Henry De Burgh-Lawson of Gathery Castle, co. York, given at my Castle of Gathery... Matters grew so out of hand that G. E. C., in his preface, appealed for an Official Roll to be kept, which eventually took effect. This is maintained by the Home Office and published by the Standing Council of the Baronetage.

Among the Baronets' lost privileges was the knighting of his eldest son, which in 1827 George IV withdrew from later patents. This was last exercised in 1874 when Queen Victoria knighted Ludlow Cotter at Windsor on his coming of age. The final blow came when Harold Wilson and his Conservative successor failed to recommend any hereditary honours. Now that Mrs Thatcher has again set the wheels in motion, perhaps she will borrow through *The Complete Baronetage* and restore this ancient honour to the active list.

Patrick

Montague-Smith

Fiction

Play the old malarkey again, Sam

Monte Carlo by Stephen Sheppard

(Hodder & Stoughton, £8.50)

Any Price by Ted Alibury

(Hodder & Stoughton, £7.95)

Prizes for identifying the top of the month at your local bookstore. It is of the Pounder Pulp, with attention focused on the book counter. But hard to find too like to jog at the rear of the annual list of the Lowest Common Denominator, if only to get idea where next year's sales of Stephen Sheppard's new period thriller for

example will be studied with great interest, not all of it friendly. Mr Sheppard's only previous book, *The Four Hundred*, earned him the unhappy distinction of being the man who finally nailed the old publishing myth that bestsellerdom can always be bought if your pocket is long enough. The hype which surrounded Mr Sheppard's debut as a writer was awesome; the sales which followed were not. But this time I think he is going to be luckier.

His hero, Harry Pilikian, is an Armenian American songwriter, comfortably holed-up in neutral Monaco at the beginning of World War Two. Every character in Harry's bel monde cafe society will be instantly recognised by movie buffs and aficionados of popular fiction of the period. There are eccentric

English ladies, a retired gentleman-burglar, and a beautiful Russian cabaret singer. All turn out to be spies, naturally. The local police chief is secretary sympathetic, the resident Gestapo major overly not so. Homosexual cocktail pianists are not to be trusted, while barmen and rich playboys can of course be relied upon to come good when the caviare finally hits the fan.

It does so when the phoney war gives way to the real thing, and Harry Pilikian arrives at the Rubicon when the USA enters the fray. The transition from Scott Fitzgerald to Alastair Maclean gives Mr Sheppard a few bumpy moments. Several characters that have been shaping up quite nicely find themselves dumped unceremoniously on the fringes of the action. But he writes clearly, and obviously relishes the period he's describing. No doubt detractors will point out that the plot of *Monte Carlo* has been lifted, lock and stock if not actually barrel, from the film *Casablanca*. But then Stephen Sheppard, a former National Theatre actor, can retort that even the Bard was not above reworking other chaps' scenarios when it suited him. And besides, Sam was always being asked to play it again.

There's a distinct sensation of déjà vu about Ted Alibury's new book, too. But it comes from reading the newspapers rather than other spy thrillers. The hero of *Any Price*, SIS officer James Boyd, is one of those clock and dagger merchants whose sense of duty is offended once too often by the warped utilitarianism of his masters. He uncovers incontrovertible evidence not only that the Kennedy assassinations were the work of an unholy alliance between the CIA and the Mafia, but that the mindbending techniques used to unbind Lee Harvey Oswald

and Sirhan Sirhan are now being used by British intelligence to tidy up their problems in troublesome spots like Belfast. Himself a veteran of the Intelligence Corps, Mr Alibury is one of our most convincing writers in this field. The scientific gimmick around which his latest plot revolves is disappointingly feeble. But the dialogue and the action are well up to standard.

If it's paranoia you're after, where better to look than California? Jenny Hunt, the heroine of Susan Trout's *Incognito* (Severn House, £7.95), is a loopy Mill Valley heiress whose only ambition is to be honest and kind. As a result, she is effortlessly relieved of her wealth by a financial consultant. However, the household of thieves and villains into which she innocently stumbles finds it more difficult to persuade her to part with her sole remaining valuable possession, a priceless painting, her first two novels have left me with a soft spot for Miss Trout and her whimsical world of weirdos and weirdies. I am therefore unhappy to find her straying towards the comic crime novel. This is treacherous terrain, where even P. G. Wodehouse was unsure of his footing, and only Edmund Crispin and Donald E. Westlake have ever been truly at ease.

Jackie Collins is a writer who shows no inclination to stray from her home base. Why should she, when the world she knows best - the flash and trash of Hollywood - offers such rich pickings? Hollywood Wives (Collins, £9.50) is less ambitious than its predecessor, *Chances*. But Miss Collins still seems to be enjoying the whoopery she tells, and occasional shafts of humour make her books infinitely preferable to those of say Harold Robbins or Jacqueline Susann.

John Nicholson

Crime

Ferretting for mole

Ferret by George Markstein

(Hodder & Stoughton, £7.95)

Espionage is real, besides being the stuff of a certain intriguing sort of fiction. Indeed, some spying is so real and so secret, we are told in the blurb to this book, that it can be spoken of only if it is presumed that it is pure fiction. Or, as one of the characters casually remarks, "there are things people mustn't know." It is only when such things impinge momentarily on some ordinary life, as they are shown plausibly doing in the early pages here, that we, John Public, get the smallest hint. And that, Markstein says convincingly, is quickly enough muffled, as when his innocent country G.P. looks after a mysterious, shocked man and can get no explanations of any sort from anyone.

But Markstein's book by no means confines itself to the doctor's story. He pounces here, there, and everywhere. Highest Moscow, deepest Washington, all sorts of secret places, some well-known ones. And out of them emerges the "ferret" aircraft, both East and West apparently use to spy on each other against all international law, as well as a "ferret" agent put into a situation where the presence in the dark of, not a rabbit, but a mole is suspected. It is a good story, well told: one feels indeed that one is swimming in seas of deception, where both the killings and the matings are promiscuous.

The people Markstein writes about are made to come to life. But their fears and loves are temporary only. None relates to any of the others. A theme is not created out of those reflections and oppositions and similarities that the novelist employs, that espionage novelists like Len Deighton and Le

Carre employ along with all the delightful jargon and hinted-at inner knowledge. So is Markstein's book of a lower order? It depends what you expect. If you are content to see fiction used to expose (a little) the real secrets of the real world, fine. If you hope that fiction will expose the secrets of the heart, some disappointment.

Death Wishes, by Philip Lorraine (Collins, £6.75). Where there's a Will there's a guess and guess again story. Excellent Providence descriptions; mildly manipulated characters (but otherwise where would the surprise be?).

A Party to Murder, by Michael Underwood (Macmillan, £6.50). Inside provincial Prosecuting Solicitor's office. A blunt instrument is used, but the writing is always nicely sharp. You learn, puzzle, enjoy.

The Leader and the Damned, by Colin Forbes (Collins, £8.95). Here's 478 glib pages with ingeniously intermeshing double plot set in Barchinasden and Europe, 1943, plus mingled dashes of fact.

The Shaft, by Paul Chevalier (Hodder & Stoughton, £7.95). One for pillow machos. Monster treasure hunt off Nova Scotia, tough men, beautiful (and quick to embrace) girl, technical terms a-gogo.

Strained Relations, by Alison Cairns (Collins, £6.75). First book of promise tells of can-of-worms Cornwall where few are what they seem. Nicely gossipy, if straining belief occasionally.

Nobody Cared for Kate, by Gene Thompson (Gollancz, £7.95). Attractive American lawyer caught up in locked-barge mystery on Canal du Midi. Alibis and motives galore. School-of-Sayers lives.

H. R. F. Keating

Oldest cathedral

Stonehenge Complete by Christopher Chippindale

(Thames & Hudson, £12.95)

Mr Gladstone, when staying with the Bishop of Salisbury, went out after dinner to see Stonehenge and wrote in his diary (31 March 1853) "a noble, and an awful relic, telling much and telling that it conceals more." After the first World War, the Society of Antiquaries in London, asked Colonel Hawley to conduct excavations at Stonehenge to resolve its date and purpose: as Chippindale says, the 1919-26 Hawley excavations were a disaster - Hawley himself said "the more we dig, the more the mystery appears to deepen." (The Times, 5 August 1927).

After the second World War Professors Atkinson and Pigott conducted the first modern scientific excavations, and we still all eagerly await the full publication of these remarkable excavations of the 1950s; they are summarized in Atkinson's *Stonehenge* (a Pelican, first published in 1956, and reprinted in 1979). Chippindale's excellent book deals with the views that people have had about this monument, one of the seven wonders of prehistoric Europe, from its first mention in written records. It claims, as at first sight it might appear, extravagantly, that it includes "everything important, interesting or odd that has been written or painted, discovered or imagined about the most extraordinary ancient building in the world". But as one reads the book and studies its lavish and beautiful illustrations, the claim seems justified.

It begins with the place of Stonehenge in the medieval romances of King Arthur. Then we see how Tudor historians and antiquaries groped for its origin and purpose and how

Inigo Jones decided it was a masterpiece of Roman architecture, a temple to the god Coelus, probably at the time of Agricola, blending Tuscan with Corinthian. Edmund Bolton, a respected historian and a friend of Jones, declared that it was not the work of the Romans "The dumbness of it speaks", he declared, "that it was not any work of the ROMANS. For they were wont to make stones vocally by inscriptions." That STONAGE was a work of the Britanni, he decided that it was the tomb of Boadicea, although most archaeologists these days believe that she is buried under Platform 10 at King's Cross Station.

Bolton and Aubrey and Suckley were right in dating Stonehenge to prehistoric times and now the Atkinson-Pigott excavations have firmly dated it, this prehistoric cathedral of the Ancient Britons, to the third and fourth millennia BC. Here was a sacred-secular place of assembly built and rebuilt between 3100 and 1100 BC.

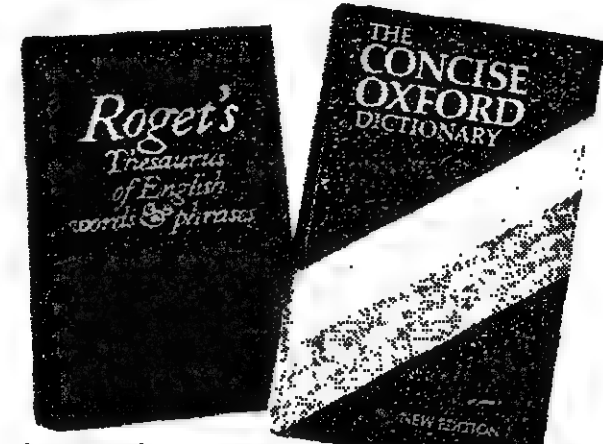
Authoritative, clear, well-written, this book is essential reading for all megalithic buffs from the serious student of prehistoric Europe to the megalithomaniacs, including the dotty Druids whom a misguided Whitehall still allows to frolic there at Midsummer sunrise. Chippindale is good on the Druids and on the astronomical interpretation of Stonehenge.

Stonehenge has been used as an emblem by all manner of organisations and since the Stonehenge astronomy boom especially in the western USA. Chippindale includes the logo of the Sarsen Press, Redwood City, California. I treasure the dinner menu of the wagon-restaurant in the Boulgno-Milan TAC of a few weeks ago which has a fine picture of Stonehenge advertising Kronenbourg beer.

Glyn Daniel

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THE TIMES DIARY

Anyone for Tom?

Though it is a month since Michael Foot's chief of staff, Sir Tom McCaffrey, intimated that he would not want to continue under Labour's new leader, there has been no rush to engage the services of the man with the unique experience of being headed public relations at the Home Office, Foreign Office, 10 Downing Street, and Leader of the Opposition's office. He would not leave the new leader in the lurch by walking out on October 27, McCaffrey says, "but I do think it would be wrong both for them and for me to serve a third Labour leader as I did Jim Callaghan and Michael Foot. I am hoping someone will come forward with some suggestions." Sir Tom McCaffrey is 61.

Out of touch

The Falkland Islands have been cut off. No, not in the south Atlantic but right here in London where the Falkland Islands Office finds itself without telephone and Telex after moving from Great Smith Street to Fulton Street. "Incommunicado" was the plaintive word from a callbox. Their plight could last some time. A firm of solicitors in Covent Garden, Thomas M. Barth, has been trying to contact British Telecom's North Central Area Sales Office by telephone for two weeks. Every time the phone rang unanswered. Finally they sent a Telex explaining they wanted to buy some equipment and had been ringing without success for a fortnight. The response was: "Do you have a reference for us?"

● Attractions at the Barbican Centre's family festival are to include "novelties such as a giant inflatable maze". At the Barbican, I should hardly have thought that was necessary.

Pirate gold

Louis Baum, editor of *The Bookseller*, has just written a book well-judged, as one would expect, to catch the interest of the trade. It is called *Just and the Pirates* and appears just as the Publishers Association is spending £100,000 on an anti-piracy campaign, seeking and prosecuting those who infringe copyright. Baum's book, though, is for children, and concerns a parrot which goes on a worldwide search for pirates of the traditional variety but only find one who is seven years old. It is not, I am sure, a satire: "I hope you do not think I have any sympathy with pirates," Baum says indignantly.

BARRY FANTONI



Apparently you buy them in bunches

Reader's digest

Colin Luke of Regent's Park Road, NW1, tells me his pregnant wife has taken to devouring newspapers. She says *The Standard* tastes foul. *The Guardian* is too dry. *The Sunday Times* too moist. What attracts her most is the particular flavour of *The Times*. Luke urges her to keep off the stories, but she claims we are parsimonious with our margins. He warned me that if I printed this in my essentially marginal Diary column, she would probably eat it.

Barbed bouquet

The lingering odour of Drakkar Noir by Guy Laroche has claimed another victim. The after-shave was launched with impregnated cards inserted in the *Observer Magazine* of the Sunday before last. Our wise correspondent, Jane MacQuitty, hand at work in her Fulham crie on the *Whitch Wine Guide 1984*, was aware all week of a "sick-making smell" in her flat. It took six days to track it down to an unopened colour magazine, buried in the wastepaper bin.

A word for it

A brochure from the Greek Tourist Office describing a holiday complex on the island of Evia, has this enticing passage: "Our 640 beds are lavishly facilitated, and in the style of hotel and bungalow... In liaison with the beach, we have to your avail, a big pool for adults and a small one for children, and in direct contact with the playground... At the end of a beautiful day, let yourselves go at the night club with carnivals, folklorics, and many other merry-making activities."

I heard that the Swiss watch and cuckoo clock industry had taken a knock, but I did not know the Swiss had even forgotten how to tell the time. A press release from The Leading Hotels of Switzerland boasts: "Our future guests will be able to order meals up to midnight (last orders 11.45 pm). In the city hotels there is even provision for a round-the-clock snacks and hot drinks service. For 16 hours a day guests will be able to order menus or a la carte meals to be served in their rooms by the service staff on each floor."

PHS

LT: In line for another failure

By Jim Daly

The latest proposals for the reorganization of London Transport are sadly disappointing. They smack of yet another round of ideological experimentation - this time the magic formula is splitting the bus services from the Underground and privatizing the fringe areas such as cleaning and a range of supplies.

All these magic potions will fail because Tom King, the Secretary of State for Transport like most of his predecessors continues to ignore the central managerial fact that lies at the heart of the LT crisis. The system operates against a background of falling population, increased car ownership and capital investment starvation.

What is needed above all is a 10 year development programme sanctioned by government and then left to management to implement. The problem does not lie in political control, either right or left, where ideological measures merely tinker with the problem, focusing attention especially on day-to-day fares policy and blithely ignoring the implications of neglecting long-term investment in modernization and reequipment.

Even if we accept that the GLC has made a mess of public transport, the cause does not lie at the GLC leader Ken Livingstone's door any more than at the door of Sir Horace Culler, his predecessor. If anyone should take the blame it is Barbara Castle. As minister of transport, she shifted responsibility from an independent state executive to the GLC, utterly neglecting to note two obvious weaknesses in her Transport Act.

This made more difficult the coordination

and integration of British Rail suburban services with the Underground, whose predominant operation is on the north side of the Thames. It also ignored the fact that local government finance is simply not geared to running a revenue service of the scale of LT. It was inevitable that one day the GLC would become a transport business with a local authority attached. The rates crisis has escalated in line with this experience.

Some of LT's critics have a point when they identify glaring inefficiencies such as examples of over-manning. But they are deluding themselves if they think these are central questions. Many of the failings have to do with low morale, stemming from an appalling public image, which is reflected in sloven discipline, rudeness to passengers (in turn fuelled by bad-mannered customers) and falling confidence in the quality of service.

These ills will not be cured by blaming the managers, who are among the best in the business: if they were not they would hardly be contracted to build advanced systems in Hongkong and Latin America.

If Tom King really wanted to go down in history as a worthy successor to Lord Ashfield or Herbert Morrison, his White Paper would say something like this:

"The Government will create a new passenger transport authority for the commuter area around Greater London. It will be an elected body charged with the responsibility of providing a fully integrated

system modelled on the successful operations of larger conurbations in western Europe, notably Paris, Munich and Hamburg. The objective shall be to provide high quality, reliable and cheap transportation, giving access to the whole population and especially in the densely packed centres, relief from traffic congestion.

"The PTA will be required to operate efficiently and may contract certain of its support services should it consider this appropriate. The Government expects that because of the sale of capital investment required to reestablish the service on a realistic basis it will be necessary to guarantee finance for some years into the future. In the meantime it is unlikely that there will be immediate improvement - indeed, things may well get worse before the benefits of new investment begin to flow.

"The public can be assured that it is the intention of government to take responsibility for past errors. We shall start by making use of the one group of people who have the experience, the technical proficiency and the will to succeed if we give them the means - the employees of London Transport. We have learned our lesson from National Freight and National Bus - both of which showed how efficiently they could perform when freed from the internal wish of frustrated politicians to live out their boyhood fantasies and play with buses and trains."

The author was chairman of the GLC transport committee 1976-77 and is attached to the faculty of business at the North London Polytechnic.

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Roger Boyes on Polish expectations after the lifting of martial law



Jaruzelski announcing the end of martial law. Much will depend on whether he can convince Poles that what follows is "liberalization"

Now for Jaruzelski's real test

Warsaw Readers of entrails and students of paradox were intrigued to learn that only weeks after meeting Pope John Paul, General Wojciech Jaruzelski received the Soviet Order of Lenin, one of the top awards for services to socialism. Papal handshakes have produced many near-miracles - the lame have claimed recovery, weak men have become strong - but never a Russian medal. "The general must be doing something right," a cynical acquaintance remarked. "If only we knew what."

How has General Jaruzelski managed to survive martial law, imposing it, lifting it? To use a simple measure: two previous Polish leaders fell after allowing discontent to accumulate to such an extent that militia had to fire on crowds of protesters. Yet, during martial law, at least 15 demonstrators died after police action - and General Jaruzelski has emerged despite everything as the unchallenged leader of the Communist Party and the government. The government formula is that these deaths were painful but martial law averted a civil war and its bloody consequences: perhaps the Poles are beginning to accept this version of history, perhaps not.

In any event, the general's personal popularity is largely irrelevant, he tells American television. "We do not discuss things in such categories. My wish is that this people should have confidence in the authority that I represent. And I think that we are gaining that confidence, that we are realistic. We do not promise things that cannot be achieved... we are consistent."

Yet somehow this image-building is too western an explanation for the general's continuing survival. Socialist societies can function for decades with bland personalities at their helm: leadership has to be judged by both intention and results. The key to intention, to the driving force of the Jaruzelski circle, could be found in the deathbed rehabilitation last year of the formerly disgraced leader Wladyslaw Gomulka, who was toppled in December 1970 after the authorities ordered the shooting of rioting workers in the Baltic ports. (According to the confidential party report on this and other Polish crises, General Jaruzelski sat in on the meeting that decided to shoot, but

remained silent. This was understood to be a vote against.)

But it is the Gomulka of 1956 who is respected as a model by those who surround Jaruzelski, many of whom came to political maturity during that period. They remember Gomulka's "Polish road to socialism," his ending of police terror, his (albeit brief) flirtation with economic reform, the attempt to create a *modus vivendi* between Church and state, the guarantee of private ownership of agriculture, the relative freedom in cultural activity and the intelligent steering of Polish-Soviet relations.

Though Gomulka abandoned or diluted almost all of these goals within two years, they remain a kind of programme for the Jaruzelski leadership. The general's advisers say that Gomulka understood the external limits to social renewal and for a while grasped how to control the pace of change. But much has changed since 1956. Perhaps the room for manoeuvre provided by Moscow has not expanded very dramatically, but the internal

demands on the system have risen rapidly, thanks to Solidarity.

Thus the Jaruzelski leadership believes it is fostering "relative freedom" in cultural life - but many artists and writers see only that the government is trying to tighten censorship, to impose an actively pro-socialist ethic on art and undermine standards of excellence.

In the perception of the United States, Jaruzelski has made the odyssey from being a Soviet puppet ("a Russian in Polish uniform" according to Caspar Weinberger) to being a Pole who wants to do good but is so circumscribed by fear of Moscow that he has to temper reform with repression. In the perception of young Poles, he is a man who killed Solidarity; further analysis is irrelevant.

But the view of many other Poles is that the general has kept many promises (above all, the promise to lift martial law), but now they should wait and see what he can deliver in terms of economic improvement and personal liberty. (Will he, for example, honour a

government promise to liberalize passport policy, allowing Poles to travel abroad as in the Solidarity era?) The civil legislation passed recently as an alternative to martial law contains the potential for further repression - but much depends on its implementation, for the laws need not be applied in their full rigour.

The leadership of a country is defined by a soft shell: it is difficult to find the kernel. The kernel may, as some believe, lie in the high standing of the army, in Jaruzelski's self-evident position within the armed forces and in his own modest, officer-on-campaign lifestyle.

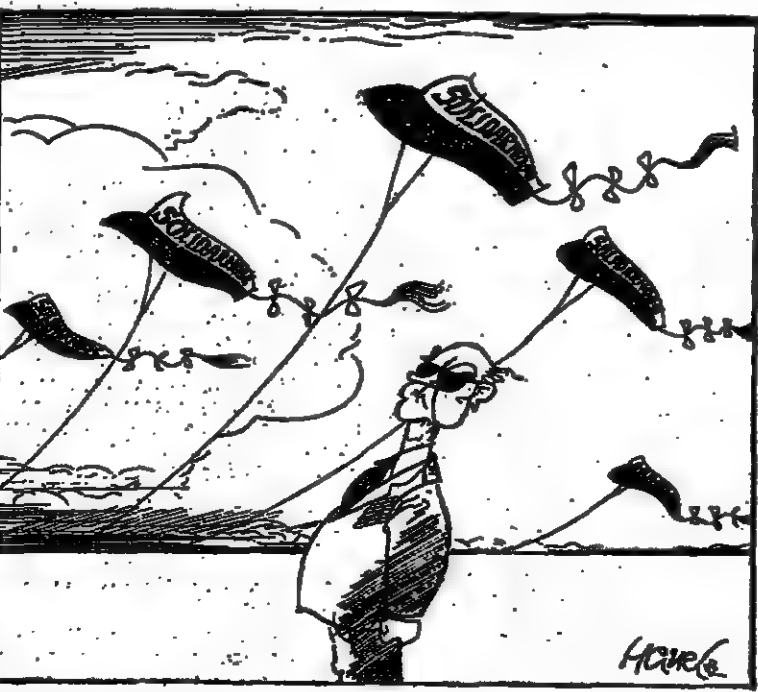
The Polish army has always had a national mission, has, despite membership of the Warsaw Pact, always had its own brain: in 1981 as the prestige of the Communist Party plummeted, so that of the army (and the party cell within it) rose. Soldiers helped the militia to maintain order, army task forces went out to the countryside to stamp out local corruption.

Jaruzelski, though he is party chief, has benefited from this prestige.

More importantly, his speeches show him to be an intelligent man: he has abandoned the party babble of his earliest efforts and now draws, sometimes skilfully, on Poland's sense of nationhood (as during the papal visit), uses a personal approach to young audiences and when the occasion demands peppers his speeches with imagery for the jaded ("It is easy to be a spectator, to wear white gloves").

Of all Polish leaders, Jaruzelski will be judged most strictly because expectations, fine-tuned by the Pope and by Solidarity ideas, are much higher than ever before. The general has carried out a successful military operation with martial law: there is order in the streets, the competition to the Communist Party has been destroyed, the government has reasserted its right to control change.

But the general now has to undertake the political operation, has to make his intentions, grappled for so long, reality. Either he has to meet popular (and church) expectations for political and economic change, or explain credibly to the people why he is failing to do so. Not many Polish leaders have passed that test.



Winds of change in Poland: Jaruzelski faces higher expectations, prompted by Solidarity and the Pope. This cartoon is from the *Frankfurter Allgemeine* last month.

Much ado about Naffing

New words for old/Philip Howard

arrested, all gave their names as "Wally", so vexing the courts. According to students of the new use, every family has a wally or naff in it. In the Thatcher family, the somewhat "uncharitable" example given is that Mark is the Naff.

The origins of "Naff" as a royal command to go away, or as an adjective or noun meaning a wally, are puzzling, but not beyond all conjecture. The careful lexicographers will not risk an opinion, but take refuge in "origin obscure". There may be some connexion or influence with the Naffi, the dear old Naval Army, and Air Force Institute, purveyors of tea and buns and beer to the services for more than 50 years. It can be spelt Naffy, Naffi, or Naffly also; Partridge records that Indian army officers used to pronounce it as Naffy.

The Naffi has popped a number of other phrases in service slang. Naffi itself is a pejorative adjective, suggesting idle and shirking. The Navy in the last war had a naffi rating, meaning a shirker. As a piece of service etymology the initials NAAFI were interpreted by learned non-commissioned officers as No Aim, Ambition, or some forgotten epithet beginning with "F". Initiative. The 1939-45 Star was known as the Naffi gone, alias the spam medal, because of the resemblance between the Naffi shoulder-strap colours and the ribbon colours of the Star. Naffy time is the morning break or clenches. A Naffy Romeo was RAF slang for a ladies' man in the last war. A Naffy rumour was a baseless report. And to deal a Naffy sandwich was the practice of Services' poker-players of dealing a

hand of two greasy cards, followed by one greasy card, followed finally by two more.

Naff has been long slang for "nothing" since circa 1940. Folk etymologists have suggested its derivation as from *rien à faire*, or Not a F. The latter is the more probable, yet far from a certainty.

We can trace the vague word Naff to older and odder roots than these. Naf can be found in collections of vulgar slang from 1845 to mean the female pudend. It is probably backslang for "fanny". It may have connexions with cognate words such as Naff meaning the navel, recorded before 1866, and Naff the hub of a wheel, found before 1796. Naff may well be one of the earliest examples of coarse backslang in the language. When Princess Anne tells photographers to Naff off, she is using older and less fashionable English than she supposes.

The *Complete Naff Guide* is published this week by Arrow Books, price £2.50

Ronald Butt

When is a cut not a cut?

The argument over public spending presents the Government with a major problem of public relations. Its achievement in bringing down inflation from nearly 22 per cent to 3.7 per cent can hardly be overstated. The first signs of a consequential and lasting recovery are already manifest. Yet this recovery remains under threat from rising public expenditure, both immediately and in the longer term, and the difficulty the Government is having in explaining itself now, is not going to get any easier.

The immediate difficulties are less serious than they may seem at the outset of the public spending negotiations for 1984-85 between the Treasury and the spending departments. Taking the view that the dangers of over-borrowing are greater than those of under-borrowing, the new Chancellor, Nigel Lawson, has taken some interim action towards keeping borrowing for the present year within the target. With inflation likely to return to about 6 per cent by the middle of next year, that must be the right decision, even if it has to be taken on still tentative figures.

But what of 1984/85? Here the argument has focussed on a figure of roughly £5,000m, the total of department bids above previously intended targets, which the Treasury will resist. Yet the appearance of the figure somewhat exaggerates the reality. The greater part of it (say, two-thirds) consists of bids for new programmes and spending ideas which the Treasury and its ministers consider should not be regarded as cuts since to resist them is not to remove an existing service.

The other (say) £2,000m, however, represents the cost of sticking to planned programmes, perhaps because more people are using a service, perhaps because an inevitable replacement may involve spending on something more advanced. Whether such increases represent a real increase in financial provision, or merely mean paying to stay where we are, is a question of almost theological complexity. However, if such money is to be found, then to the extent that it is not made available by reducing the intended £3,000m contingency reserve, it will have to come from economies elsewhere.

It is here that the Cabinet as a whole will be faced with political decisions. There will be no battle of the 1981 kind, when the "Wets" took their campaign out into the country. Two reshuffles have taken care of that. Even so the Cabinet will be faced with some hard arguing and the question will be not so much whether this or that economy is a "cut" as whether a particular spending item is resistible or not.

Thus the question about unemployment benefit, and the linkage with inflation in future years (though it is a small proportion of the total social security budget) is essentially political. The Cabinet did not give an election pledge to maintain it (as it did with pensions) because its mind is still open.

Are those ministers right who want to diminish the linkage on the grounds that the inadequate differ-

ential between means-tested unemployment benefit and low wages acts as a work disincentive? Or are those right (I think they are) who say that although this is true in many cases, there are many more where work is wholly unobtainable, and where to cut the real value of unemployment benefit would cause hardship and political resentment? Those who believe the latter would much prefer the unemployment trap to be dealt with solely by raising the tax threshold - but there is a very serious doubt whether that is going to be possible.

All such questions about public spending are going to get harder not easier when this summer's negotiations for 1984/85 are over. In the long run, therefore, there has to be an open debate in the nation on precisely the questions asked about public spending in the much maligned Think Tank report, which was leaked last September and which asked the right questions even if some of the answers were both unrealistic and politically embarrassing to the Government.

State spending, however desirable its objectives, tends by its methods towards waste and towards an order of priorities which more reflects political pressures and bureaucratic vested interests than either common sense or the greatest need. Thus any proposal to cut spending on drugs immediately provokes outcry on the grounds that it infringes the clinical freedom of doctors (who are themselves under commercial pressure and pressure of work to dispense them) and so more worthwhile health needs suffer.

Hitherto the Government has shied away from any radical approach to state spending.

Only now is it, very gingerly, approaching local government spending which is itself largely to provide without being able adequately to control. The truth is that for understandable political reasons, the Cabinet is split-minded.

The long-term examination that the Think Tank report attempted was desired by ministers but the implications of the Think Tank's answers caused great alarm and the Government promptly shied away from them. They would now like a national debate on the future of public spending, yet they are also wary of starting it.

A debate of this sort, however, cannot be instigated by the press. For one thing it lacks the information. For another, much of it is still influenced by the neo-Keynesian idea that there is no serious spending problem at all. Such a debate can only be informed and steered by the Government itself. The long-term spending problem cannot be dealt with by candle-end economies alone or by periodically getting out the scissors of economy which too often, at moments of emergency, lop off what is most instead of what is least needed. Politics is as much about priorities for a Tory as for a Labour government, and the sooner in this Parliament that these questions are thought out with no thoughts barred, the better for everyone.

Paul Pickering

Rats on the line? Try calling Hamelin

While I was talking to a favourite aunt who was about to give me two rather special Chinese figures, there was suddenly an ominous click on the telephone line and no aunt. "It's rude to play with the phone, don't do it," the formidable lady said when I was reconnected. Click, buzz and she was gone again; so too for the moment was the precious porcelain.

At best, an ordinary conversation on my telephone, to someone half a mile away sounds like Neil Kinnock with a cold on a bad line from the Falklands, despite British Telecom having announced profits of £1m a day - or probably because of it.

So I rang the operator, "Rats," she said. For a moment I thought it was an insult. "Rats," she repeated, shouting over the squealing and whistling. "They eat through the casing around the cables and cut you off. It's quite a problem in some areas. I'm terribly sorry." She faded out like Scott of the Antarctic into a blizzard of static.

As I put down the phone I immediately struck me why the vastly profitable Telecom wanted to sell off our telephonic heritage. Armies of vicious rodents were obviously eating the thing whole. If their sharp incisors sliced through Edwardian-armoured cable spiced with rat poison, what would they do to modern technology?

Surely the new electronic exchanges, with succulently greased microchips, and munchy junction boxes made in Japan will be so much sukuyaki to a hungry British rat. This is clearly the end for the giant Telecom dinosaur. Rats, of course, put paid to real dinosaurs like the one just found by a plumber in Surrey, after the monster had reigned supreme for 140 million years. "No dinosaur could possibly hope to cope with myriads of small animals devouring all before them," Dr Beverly Halstead of Reading University told the British Association at Bath. What chance has a nationalised industry, soon to be privatised, against an animal that zapped Tyrannosaurus Rex?

"Problem? I'd say they are," said a local telephone spokesman. "Many years ago we used to put rat-catchers down the manholes but the local authorities handle it now. I don't know if they still will after it becomes private. But I cannot talk to you as I am only local, see? You have to 'phone head office."

Before ringing the chief Telecom Mckon himself at the centre of the electronic empire I decided to get a second opinion on whether mere rodents could harm the system. Mr Eric Jukes of the London and Southern Counties Mouse and Rat Club is an expert. "Fancy rats are really my speciality but you cannot help being interested in them all," this local government officer said modestly.

"It sounds as though there is a rat having a go at this line at the moment with somewhat blunt teeth," Mr Jukes added. "But joking apart, the intelligence of a rat is equal to that of a cat."

"The rat-fanciers of the 1930s used to warn people that if they were going to fill up a rat hole, a mixture of concrete and barbed wire up was the only thing that would stop them."

"Anything less and the rats pull it to pieces. They often work together. Two rats will pull along on their backs a third rat carrying an egg in his paws or something they want to eat. One can imagine how quickly these small SAS cadres of rats could play havoc with an exchange."

A lot of people are still prejudiced against rats for some reason. "It is a racial discrimination," said Mr Jukes. "There were some northerners last year who said that the National Mouse Club should not support any show which had rats in it. Luckily they did not win. There has always been aggression between rats in the 1920s and 1930s and are now making a comeback."

Mr Jukes also comes across the beasts in his job: "I work in an information office, and when tempted to reply 'Bring them along to my club,' but I don't. They still have rat catchers but they call them rodent officers these days."

On a quick straw poll of councils I found that most charge British Telecom for rodent control, and look forward to charging the private companies more - especially certain Labour authorities who are dead against selling off the network.

This was the right moment, I decided, to talk to the head Mckon at Telecom headquarters. "There are rats in all underground systems, but I don't think it is a problem," he sniffed. "They will never get into our new exchanges." Tell that to the poor dinosaurs.

صلى الله عليه وسلم



Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-437 1234

SEE YOU IN OCTOBER

It seems odd, so soon after a general election, for Parliament to take up for a long holiday its members time to think. They certainly need it; and more so than the Government. That is one of the stages of a summer election. It is curious in this case, however, when the Conservatives won the election, how that election has changed everything including the mission of ministerial sureness which preceded it. The election the Government's touch has been most recent. There has been a session of episodes which have been handled maladroitly in political terms. The capital shment debate, MPs' pay, even the start of the public argument, might all in itself be of lesser consequence, but cumulatively they are two things. The first is that a new government, with a new approach and therefore a kind of political inexperience among some of its recently noted senior figures which is more than one of a mere reshuffle. The second is that, so far, a government out a strategy. There are ideas there, for sure; there is, but there is no coherence as though the new net gathered together after election and started collecting a blank sheet of paper. legislative programme is really a recycling job from the ruptured passage of Bills in last Parliament. Beyond that manifesto was not much help; it was studiously vague in its

Conservatives to think that it is easy just in government, managing and reacting to events. It is a suspicion that the Tory thinks that it is rather fun. But modern government is no longer fun. It is tedious, exhausting, and a challenging and most uncomfortable. This Government there are strands of Conservative - the Tory traditional - the Tory radicals. The

traditionalists are the comforters. They won the day in the presentation of the Party's attitudes before the election. It must be tempting now to sit back and enjoy the fruits of the election victory. The radicals are the challengers. They know there is unpleasant work to be done.

Government is big and getting bigger. If we are to believe this Government's rhetoric it intends to get smaller. That is the central paradox with which this Government has to grapple. It is the internal argument which must be resolved in favour of smaller government if the Conservatives are to succeed in their purpose. The paradox is that any government with the strength and willpower to reduce the power of government is normally associated with the creed, and led by the practitioners of big government. The temptations and seductions of office - of the quiet life - must therefore be resisted, even though the political consequences of that resistance will be a very unquiet life indeed.

The issue of public spending is obviously paramount, both because of its effect on the economy and because it determines the whole political climate in which the Government will be operating. Nothing could be worse for this Government than to punctuate its next term of office with regular bouts of wrangling over public spending. It will suggest that Ministers are unable to control the one thing they say they must control. It will present the Cabinet as being permanently on the defensive against a phenomenon which threatens to overwhelm them. They will be seen as reacting, cutting, taking away. A strategy based on high expectations and low performance is fatal. How much more sensible to lower expectations with the promise of reward for better performance.

The Government thus has a choice between staying on the defensive against the momentum of expanding public expenditure, or applying radical policies to overcome the difficulties. The Conservative election manifesto let the Party down, since the possibility - indeed the probability and necessity - of a radical approach to public

spending was hardly hinted at. Consequently the public has not been prepared for an open debate about the issues. It will thus be more easily manipulated against ideas by judicious leaks and the lobbying of pressure groups - the politics of the loud pedal.

That must not deter this Government from letting the debate be joined. The next five months or so will determine the fate of this Government at the next election. It is now that the strategic decisions must be taken which will start to find their way into the programme by the Queen's Speech of November 1984. If that is to be the keynote of this Parliament, the strategy for it must be clarified and agreed now. So there is little time to lose in spite of the warm afterglow of the June election.

Unfortunately there is no real sign that this Government has yet developed either the strategic mentality to take a long view, or the machinery to put it into effect. The Prime Minister's office is a penny-farthing. Sir Geoffrey Howe, whose massive contribution to the success and cohesion of the last Government has been much under-rated, will not be able to perform the same coordinating function from the Foreign Office. Mr Lawson, his successor, is not yet endowed with the political skills or the patience of his predecessor. Mr Tebbit is one of the few who seems to be taking the long view, perhaps because he has not had to master a new brief. There is a danger that other Ministers will be so keen to master their new briefs that the briefs will come to master them.

The fortunes of this Government will not ultimately depend on mastering departmental briefs. They will depend on a combination of strong nerve and clear argument, neither of which has been obvious since the election. By October Ministers must have agreed on a clear analysis of the difficulties which confront them, and identified the radical measures which they will have to argue through in public if this Government is going to prevail over those difficulties. Then we should be informed.

TIME TO ABATE THE GAS TAX

In the past three years domestic gas prices have increased by ten per cent more than the rate of inflation. The rate of this deliberate Government policy has been to double average gas consumer's bill in the three year period, at a time when the main thrust of government economic policy is to reduce the rate of inflation. Now the gas corporation's fifteen million domestic customers are being warned that they face another increase this autumn, despite the corporation having doubled its profits in a year to the not inconsiderable sum of £60.3m. It is small wonder that many of them are angered, not the least when insolvent National Coal Board - which is losing almost as much money as the gas corporation is making - discloses that four hours later that its heavily subsidised customers are likely to face any significant increase this year.

There is no criticism of the government's three year programme of real gas price in-

creases to say that domestic gas consumers now deserve a break. The gas pricing policy has been an unpopular but overdue attempt to put the pricing of gas on a more realistic long-term footing after years of arbitrary and politically manipulated price control by successive administrations. Consumers need to be given the right pricing signals to encourage efficient use of a finite energy source and to ensure that they are not misled into converting their homes to gas on the mistaken assumption that it will remain cheap into the foreseeable future.

Even after the three year dose of steep increases, gas is still the cheapest form of heating a house. It is true also, as the chairman of British Gas, Sir Denis Rooke, pointed out on Tuesday, that domestic gas tariffs are cheaper here than on most parts of the Continent. The continuing attractions of the fuel are underlined by the fact that its soaring price has not stopped the corporation acquiring another 650,000 domestic customers in

the last three years, mainly in the central heating market.

But enough has clearly been done on the conservation front for the time being. There is little commercial justification for anything other than a notional price increase this year. The corporation, which never wanted to push up its prices as fast as the Government wished, can clearly afford to forgo the £160m of revenue that a five per cent increase would bring, provided that the Treasury does not set it an unrealistically stiff financial target this year. British Gas has proved it is well able to finance a capital investment programme that is now running at £800m a year out of its own resources.

Against the arguments for higher gas prices must be set not only the hardship they cause for many consumers with low or fixed incomes, but also the economic benefits of low energy prices. Nationalised industry prices have been running ahead of those in the private sector. This has been one of the major obstacles to bringing down inflation even further.

FROZEN FISH

Brussels apparatus disappeared into an alarming condition analysis. It cannot reappear it in the face. It cannot get grips with agricultural expenditure. Nor can it make the revised common fisheries treaty work. Laboriously negotiated quotas for most species of fish are in suspense because the members fail to agree about fishing. Accusations of overfishing the old quotas abound ritually directed by British fishermen against Dutch and fish fishermen, because the community's regulatory measures and inspectors are not yet in place and doubts about their efficacy remain. The North Sea herring grounds were briefly opened earlier this year, then tightly closed; they remain closed, except to Norwegian fishermen, who do not enjoy the benefits of EEC membership. This last touch is especially galling for Scottish fishermen, who are roasting Mr Jopling, the Minister, for not using his veto at the council of ministers to block the Norwegian exception. The exception came about through a late switch of the British position, a move on which it is impossible to place a steady construction. Since the members still cannot agree on fishing quotas among them-

selves the ban on fishing remains in force. The majority did not care to extend the ban to Norway, which has been awarded an external quota of herring, for fear she might close her grounds to Community vessels in retaliation. So Norway for the time being is to have sole rights to exploit the North Sea herring stocks.

It is an infuriating anomaly for Aberdeen and Peterhead which have suffered long and hard from the ban on herring fishing. Still, the provocation was not enough for Mr Jopling to be justified in using the Community veto. That sledgehammer is meant for bigger nuts.

The North Sea herring, a once much underrated fish, sharply illustrates the ups and downs of conservation. Once they were two, a penny, kippered, bloated, soured, grilled. Over a million tons were taken from the sea in 1965, less than a fifth of that ten years later. The species was being grossly over-fished and stocks were declining towards vanishing point. The adoption of purse-seines together with use of modern fish finding apparatus allowed for conversion to be scooped up for conversion to meal and oil. The Danes, who now decline to be accommodated, were foremost in that destruction.

The North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, which coordinated measures of conservation before the European Community came along, was inadequate to the task in the case of herring. One of the successes of the European common fisheries policy was the introduction and enforcement of a total ban on herring catches in the North Sea from February 1977 for six years. Stocks have recovered to a point at which it is scientifically deemed safe to resume controlled fishing. This the Community sought to do last month. The resumption is now suspended in a dispute about national quotas and a welter of allegations of cheating.

The blame for the stalled state of the common fisheries policy does not lie solely with the Danes, anyone than it lay solely with the British during the years when we were holding out for a fair return on our unique contribution to the Community fishpond. Yet the present herring phase is a continuation of Denmark's resistance to the general quota settlement beyond the eleventh hour at the turn of the year. It looks as if they want to have that hard-won compromise reopened. It must be the policy of the others to prevent that, whatever patience is required for the purpose.

Labour on a road to nowhere?

From Mr David Freedman

Sir, In his article in today's Times (July 25) Mr Roy Hattersley wrote: "The Labour Party's recent tragedy has been that we have failed to translate progressive instincts into votes and seats in the House of Commons". Where does he think are the repositories of these "progressive instincts" in the political nation?

As an architect of Labour's electoral eminence in recent times, Mr Hattersley must surely know that the bulk of the support which Labour has gained at the ballot box almost from its beginnings has come from traditionally-minded trade union members, working men and women with "values" in the "improvement" for themselves and their kin, but scarcely possessed of much in the way of a zeal, "determination to create a more equal society" (people, perhaps, like Sid Osothorpe and other early characters from Mr Hattersley's autobiography). That, one need hardly add, is an observation which will have been made by level-headed supporters and opponents of Labour alike, long before the word "peephology" was even a nightmare.

Mr Hattersley's suggestion that Labour "did not lose the last election because our policies were too radical", is correct in only one sense: that the Labour Party had so much else to discourage the electorate from supporting it that its unrealistic "values" programme was relegated to the status of major factor. He cannot honestly believe that it was not at least that.

What Mr Hattersley and his party are battling against is the ineluctable loss of Labour's traditional constituency to the pale complacency of the Alliance and to the institutionalized bribery (for those still in employment) offered by the so-called Conservative Party, who between them seem to offer the best insurance against the erosion of the high living standards which Labour has taught us we all ought to expect.

These remarks have all been rehearsed, especially in recent months, by observers of social and political trends far more perceptive than I. But they appear to have made little impression on Mr Hattersley. He still wants to believe that men of genuinely "progressive instincts" and the Labour power-base of yesterday can be reconciled, in spite of clear evidence that neither component any longer exists in enough force to create an electoral majority, and that what remains of each group holds the other in contempt both in the Commons and in the country.

In short, socialism is taking over the Labour Party, not however through the devious machinations of subversive infiltrators. More simply, socialists, who have always been present, are increasingly the only ones truly interested in Labour's survival. And that, Sir, is why, if Labour is a democratic party, Mr Kinnoch will (rightly) be its next leader, and why also, if we live under a system of representative democracy, there will (rightly) never be another Labour Government.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID FREEDMAN,
Oriel College,
Oxford,
July 25.

Race and 'innocence'

From the Chairman of the Commission for Racial Equality

Sir, In your leader (July 21) on the commission's consultative document on amendments to the Race Relations Act, you say it is an "unacceptable distortion" that an employer might be held to account for indirect discrimination "even if the discrimination was entirely unconscious and innocent". The commission's point is that innocence and unconsciousness are not the same thing.

If seven years after the passing of the 1976 Act, an employer remains steadfastly unconscious of the fact that he or she is operating a system which excludes or sharply reduces the promotion prospects, say, of members of the black community, at what point is that "innocence" to be questioned?

When caught driving dangerously on the wrong side of the road it is no defence to say that one's eyes were kept tight shut throughout. Ought that same rule to apply to those who discriminate in employment? That is the point the commission is raising.

Yours faithfully,
PETER NEWSAM, Chairman,
Commission for Racial Equality,
Elliott House,
10-12 Allington Street, SW1,
July 21.

Seven-year itch

From Mr John Haskey

Sir, You kindly reported my paper, "Marital Status Before Marriage and Age at Marriage: Their Influence on the Chance of Divorce", on June 29.

In an otherwise accurate summary, you included a sentence in which it was stated that "the seven-year itch" had been confirmed. This conclusion, which was not contained in my paper, is erroneous; indeed, of all the marriages ending in divorce in 1980-81 the most frequent marriage duration was three years, there being no evidence of a peak of seven years' duration.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HASKEY,
Office of Population Censuses and Surveys,
Population Statistics Division,
St Catherine's House,
10 Kingsway, WC2,
June 29.

Because of a misprint, Mr Vernon Rogers's letter yesterday stated that many miners had not consulted their members about political funds for over 100 years. That should have read 30 years.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Helping society in and out of work

From Mr Harry Hodgkinson

Sir, Your timely reference to the latest phase of "privatisation" as a cosmetic device (leading article, July 26) prompts a question about the morality of selling back to the public assets they have already bought once through taxation and national savings.

It is only by a legal formality that the state "owns" such assets. And so the government of the day stands to them in the relationship of a trustee; not of an absolute legatee with the right to realise capital resources to cover current revenue shortfalls.

These assets belong to the community; and it would seem that the time has come for the community to create, in time-honoured British fashion, a National Trust-type body to administer them, voluntary in origin but commanding general respect and free from the greed and vagaries of fashionable political ideologies.

Existing assets, and other sources of social wealth yet to be created through, for example, high technology products, could then become national equity, inalienably owned in equal shares by every citizen.

The creation of a national equity would not merely protect our public assets from the vicissitudes of statism and laissez-faire; it would provide the nucleus for a rational method of distributing the national product in radically changing conditions of production.

Our problem is no longer to find jobs for all in obsolescent industries and candyfloss services whose output of wealth is only marginally, if at all, higher than their input of resources. Now that a maximum of wealth can best be produced with a minimum of human intervention, we need to provide a self-respecting source of income independently of the historic need for regular employment in increasingly anachronistic factories and offices.

The principle has already been acknowledged, in the form of pensions for example, but hitherto as a gesture of welfare and not, as it has now become for us all, as an act of economic common sense and social prudence.

Yours sincerely
HARRY HODGKINSON,
45 Linhope Street, NW1,
July 26.

From Mr Francis Bennion

Sir, Our nation is tying itself in knots by refusing to face a plain fact. We need to recognise and accept the

consequence of advancing technology. In free societies there will never again be paid jobs for all.

Through taxation, some of the money received by paid workers is redistributed in payments to the rest. We would do well to recognise the true nature of this operation by talking of redistribution payments instead of unemployment benefit, supplementary benefit, and so on.

A person without paid work should neither feel nor be made to feel inferior. In return for his or her redistribution payments, he or she should accept an honourable obligation to do unpaid work of one sort or another. Often this will be within the family circle, and none the worse for that.

Redistribution payments should not, as they are at present, be regarded as public expenditure. To avoid this confusion, the tax out of which they are met should be given an appropriate name (say redistribution tax). If the payments are in fact all met out of income tax, this would mean that a certain slice of income tax would be called redistribution tax and dealt with (apart from assessment and collection) by a separate process.

Then, if the rate of redistribution tax were varied by the Chancellor, the public would know exactly what this meant, namely that a greater (or lesser) share of earned wealth was being diverted to the unpaid. The current size of this share must always be one of the great social issues.

The political consequences of such a change of public attitude would be considerable. Governments, while still promoting economic prosperity, would not feel obliged to create meaningless jobs. Politicians would not have to claim, with diminishing conviction, that their party had the policies to cure unemployment.

Budgets would not be distorted by treating redistribution payments (now running at £15bn a year for unemployment benefit alone) as Government expenditure. No longer would unemployment statistics be bandied about and argued over. They would have become obsolete, like the very word unemployment itself.

And those without a job would regain their dignity.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS BENNION,
24 St Aubyns,
Hove,
East Sussex,
July 26.

Army discipline

From Major-General P. L. de C. Martin

Sir, No self-respecting person would be guilty of most of the crimes listed by Mr Ben Vincent in the last paragraph of his letter to you of July 25.

The Army today strives to teach self-discipline based on self-respect so that the soldier knows what he should do and does it, even alone, in the turmoil of battle, because he does not wish to let his comrades down nor himself. Teaching self-discipline and self-respect is not easy if it has not been bred in the individual at home.

Some young members of the Army Cadet Force once told me that they had joined the ACF "for the discipline". They went on to say that one told them what to do at home and no one told them what to do at school, but the Army did. How else, they said, were they to know what was right and what was wrong?

What the Army seeks to do within the framework of discipline is to prove to the individual that he is

capable of enduring far greater demands on his physical and mental resources than he himself could have believed possible. The sense of achievement which comes with this experience breeds self-respect.

Of course the Army is not always successful in teaching self-discipline and self-respect, and soldiers who earn the special attentions of the media and the applause of the nation must always be careful not to confuse self-respect with self-conceit, but the success of the Army's policy is nowhere clearer than on the streets of Northern Ireland, where young NCOs and soldiers show quite remarkable restraint under much greater provocation than would be needed to start a full-scale riot on the terraces of any Football League club. Yet the disciplined soldier and the soccer hooligan come from the same stock. The moral is obvious.

Yours faithfully,
PETER MARTIN,
Faircross,
Brimpton Common,
Berkshire,
July 25.

Church funds

From Mr Lewis Stretch

Sir, As treasurers of small country parishes are very much "the toads beneath the harrow", might one of them support the Bishop of Peterborough's warning (July 23)?

The taxation policies being imposed by the Church of England's present unrepresentative, bureaucratic system of government are not only the wrong way to raise funds; the image they create is a major hindrance to the Church's primary task of bringing the Gospel to the English, the English to its Lord.

Helicopter safety

From Lieutenant Commander Alan H. R. Clifford, RN

Sir, Your correspondent, Professor D. E. Newland (July 21), should not confuse the emergency procedures when flying as a passenger in a helicopter over the sea with flying as a passenger in a fixed-wing airliner over land.

As the helicopter is more likely to suffer considerable turbulence on heavy impact with the water, the seat belt should not be released until all excessive movement has ceased. The abandonment from a helicopter forced down in the sea is usually made under water and therefore there is little time to don a life jacket.

For this reason all passengers flying in helicopters over the sea should really wear a lifejacket, with a warning that it should not be inflated until escape has been made well clear of the cabin; this is to prevent being trapped inside the cabin with an inflated jacket.

These comments naturally assume the worst case when there is little time to effect an escape, which passengers should at least anticipate in a helicopter ditching.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN CLIFFORD,
29 Chesham Avenue,
Hill Head,
Hampshire,
July 20.

Cable TV franchises

From the Director of the National Consumer Council

Sir, In accordance with its proposals in the White Paper on cable, the Government has invited applications for up to 12 cable franchises in advance of legislation and of the establishment of a Cable Authority. On July 15 the Department of Trade and Industry and the Home Office issued a Guidance Note to intending applicants for these pilot franchises.

I recognise the strength of the Government's argument that rapid action is needed to enable cable investment and installation to start in the near future. However, nowhere does the Guidance Note say that the franchise applications will be published.

Cable providers and operators who are successful in winning these pilot franchises will be in an extremely strong position when the substantive development of cable takes place. It would be highly undesirable if they achieved this without their applications being available for public scrutiny and comment, not least in those communities which they propose to cable.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY MITCHELL, Director,
National Consumer Council,
18 Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
July 21.

Engineering safeguards

From the Director-General of the Engineering Council

Sir, The new Engineering Council (EC), about which Mr John Kapp writes (July 16), was created as a result of the Finniston inquiry into the engineering profession. The recent 71-7 vote, so deplored by Mr Kapp, authorising the Council of Engineering Institutions (CEI) to apply for surrender of its royal charter was simply the penultimate chapter in the handover to the EC.

The EC inherits some of the functions of the CEI, notably in setting the standards for registration and in the operation of the register, but the bulk of the EC is much wider than that of the CEI. The primary objective is to promote the science and practice of engineering for the nation's benefit and to promote industry and commerce in the UK.

The method of selection of the EC members was discussed extensively with the profession in the drafting stage of the royal charter, which was granted in November 1981. All chartered engineers had the opportunity to vote in a postal ballot on the transfer of powers from CEI to the EC, and voted in favour by 76,274 to 5,791.

Contrary to Mr Kapp's fears, democratic safeguards for the profession will be strong. The creation of an engineering assembly is a crucial part of the EC strategy. A consultative document has been issued which proposes that this assembly should be wholly elected on a regional constituency basis by and from those on the EC's register.

There will also be a linked national structure based upon about 20 regional committees, whose task will be to promote industrial and educational links locally and to influence EC policy through the assembly. The EC has already emphasised to the profession and other interested bodies that it welcomes comments and suggestions.

As an engine for change is the prime task of the EC and we look to industry and the engineering profession to pull together in advancing the performance of British industry.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH MILLER,
Director-General,
The Engineering Council,
Canberra House,
10-16 Maltravers Street, WC2,
July 18.

Local autonomy

From Councillor Ian Coutts

Sir, The Chairman of the Association of County Councils' letter (July 15) is too sweeping in saying that all sections of the association would fight what he describes as "challenges to the autonomy of local government". Many of us voted for the Conservative amendment to the Labour motion of criticism only because we understood that this would enable the association's attitude to the Government's proposed legislation to be decided when, and only when, the White Papers were published.

As a result of the activities of only a few of its number local government has acquired a bad name in recent years. With great power goes great responsibility. When that sense of responsibility disappears so does the right to the power.

In these circumstances to talk about defending the freedom of local government is to misunderstand the nature of democracy. Down the ages it has been the task of Parliament to defend the citizen from the overmighty subject. Certainly Mr Lovell and his friends have used this argument when calling on government for trade union reform. Today some local authorities are acting as overmighty subjects and reasonable legislation is not only the right but the duty of government.

Yours faithfully,
IAN COUTTS,
2 The Close,
Norwich,
July 15.

Matrimonial links

From Mrs J. M. S. Elstob

Sir, I am saddened by the decision of the Church of England General Synod to allow remarriage in special circumstances.

A Christian will never ask the Church for such a concession because he made his marriage vows before God and it is, therefore, not in the power of man to allow him to rescind them.

The Church will have submitted, like a weak parent, to the wishes of a spoilt child and will pay the price. Yours faithfully,
JANE M. S. ELSTOB,
50 Maryat Road, SW19,
July 17.

Technical hitches

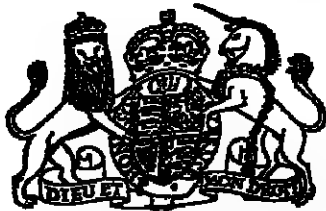
From Mr M. J. Campbell

Sir, For the fourth day running you are unable to publish stock market information due to "computer failure"; how ever did you manage before computerization?

For the second time within two years our telephone answering machine has been put out of order by a fault apparently caused by lightning; "a chance in a million", we were told.

Fortunately life can still be sustained without the aid of either, but many activities more essential to our wellbeing, even our continued existence on this planet, are becoming dependent on the fruits of "new technology". Is it unreasonable to feel a little concerned?

Yours faithfully,
MALCOLM J. CAMPBELL,
City Business Librarian,
City Business Library,
Gilt House,
33 Basinghall Street, EC2,
July 26.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

July 27: Her Excellency Mrs Danielle de St Jorre was received in audience by the Queen and presented her Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of Seychelles in London.

Her Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the High Commission, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr R. F. Dalpech (Counselor).

Sir Antony Acland (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being presented to the Queen was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr J. C. Moberly (Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Baghdad) and Mrs Moberly had the honour of being received by the Queen.

The Queen held a Council at 12.40pm.

There were present: The Viscount Whitelaw (Lord President), the Lord Denham (Captain of the Gentlemen-at-Arms), the Right Hon Sir Keith Joseph, MP (Secretary of State for Education and Science) and the Right Hon Norman Fowler, MP (Secretary of State for Social Services).

Mr James Moynihan, MP, was sworn in a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Sir Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Viscount Whitelaw had an

audience of The Queen before the Council.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave an Afternoon Party in the Garden of Buckingham Palace.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester and The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present.

Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms and the Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard were on duty.

The Bands of the Grenadier Guards and the Royal Tank Regiment (Cumbria) played selections of music during the afternoon.

KENSINGTON PALACE

July 27: The Duke of Gloucester this evening presented awards to Australian Science Scholars at the Royal Institution, Albemarle Street, London.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Simon Brand was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, National Association for Gifted Children, this morning visited Explorers Unlimited Residential Centre at Packwood House School, Nr Shrewsbury, Wiltshire.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE

July 27: The Duke of Kent, President of The Scout Association, today attended the Norfolk International Jamboree Camp at the Royal Norfolk Showground, Norwich.

Sir Richard Buckley was in attendance.

Princess Anne, Commandant-in-Chief, St John Ambulance, and Nursing Cadets, will not visit the St John Cadet Camp at Glanusk Park, Powys, on August 1 as arranged.

Princess Anne, patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, will visit the Moray group at Drumblair, Rothes, Morayshire, on September 20 and later the Calthness group at Falkirk, Calthness.

Princess Anne, patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, will attend the gala night of the Horse of the Year Show, in aid of the British International Equestrian Fund, at Wembley, on October 3.

The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Richard III Society, will visit Gloucester to attend the 500th anniversary celebrations to mark the granting of Charter of Incorporation to the City of Gloucester by King Richard III on September 2.

The Duke of Gloucester will carry out engagements in Falkirk, Scotland, on September 5.

The Duchess of Gloucester as Patron will open the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics Congress 1983 at Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, on September 5.

The Duchess of Gloucester will open the International Congress of Maxillo-Facial Prosthetics and Technology at Royal College of Surgeons, London, on September 6.

The Duke of Gloucester will open the British Tourist Authority 'Heritage '84' conference and present Heritage awards 1983 at Christ Church, Oxford, on September 14.

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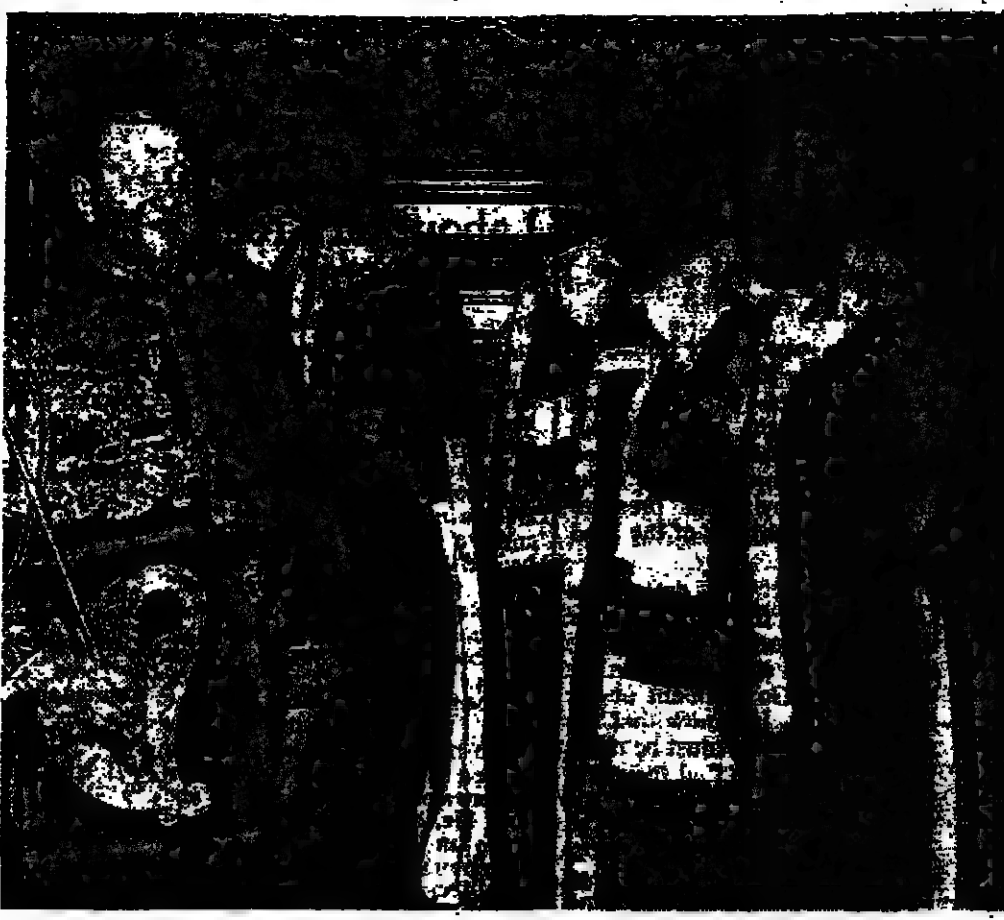
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Lord King of Wartaby (right) on his way to being introduced to the House of Lords on Tuesday by Lord Manton (back left) and Lord Grimthorpe (back right). Sir Colin Cole, Garter King of Arms, is on the left.

Birthdays today

Dame Joyce Bishop, 87; Mr William Clark, 67; the Earl of Cromer, 64; Sir Horace Currier, 71; Mr Kenneth Durham, 59; Sir Peter Green, 59; Mr R B Henderson, 54; Sir Maurice Holmes, 72; Lord Murray of Newhaven, 80; Dame Rosemary Murray, 70; Mr Riccardo Mudi, 42; Sir Humphrey Mynors, 80; Professor Sir Karl Popper, 81; Sir Reginald Second, 61; Sir Gary Sober, 47.

Latest appointments

Mr Tom Lloyd, 37, former deputy editor of *Financial Weekly*, to be editor of the newspaper in succession to Mr Ray Heath.

Latest wills

Miss Ethel Irene Nancy Bradshaw, of Cheltenham, net estate valued at £169,960 net. After bequests and effects she left the residue to the Royal College of Music, London, for student scholarships.

Other estates include (net before tax paid):

Mr Freda, of Whitechurch, Shropshire, net £214,473.

Constant, Miss Joan, of Sevenoaks, £681,574.

Lawcock, Mr Charles Edward, of Linton in Craven, North Yorkshire, net £252,417.

Mr William Kenneth, of Woodthorpe, Nottingham £240,594.

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Luncheon

The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were hosts at a luncheon given at 10 Downing Street yesterday in honour of M Felix Hopmann-Bogay, President of the Ivory Coast. The other guests were: Sir Horace Currier, 71; Mr Kenneth Durham, 59; Sir Peter Green, 59; Mr R B Henderson, 54; Sir Maurice Holmes, 72; Lord Murray of Newhaven, 80; Dame Rosemary Murray, 70; Mr Riccardo Mudi, 42; Sir Humphrey Mynors, 80; Professor Sir Karl Popper, 81; Sir Reginald Second, 61; Sir Gary Sober, 47.

Receptions

The Arbitrators' Company held its annual service at St Mary's Church, Chesham, yesterday. Canon Gerald Hudson officiated. The Dean of Westminster gave an address and the lesson was read by the Master, Mr Clifford Clarke. Afterwards, the Master and Wardens held a

University news

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OBITUARY

DR R. O. GIBSON

Codiscoverer of polythene

Dr. Reginald Oswald Gibson, who died on July 22 at the age of 80, was the codiscoverer with E. W. Fawcett just 50 years ago of polythene (or polyethylene as it is now generally known in the industry). Life today for the housewife, the gardener, manufacturer of food, clothes, detergents and almost all retail goods, the electrical and electronics industries, the building industry - indeed for almost everyone - would be unthinkable without polyethylene which is currently produced throughout the world on the scale of some 20 million tons a year.

After taking an honours degree in chemistry at University College London, Gibson did some research work under Professor F. G. Donnan who recommended him in 1924 for a research assistantship at Leyden University under Kamerlingh Onnes, Professor of Experimental Physics. Gibson had to get a loan (£25 from the Institute of Chemistry) to take the post, but he stayed until 1926 when he joined Brunner, Mond & Co. which became part of the new company, Imperial Chemical Industries, in 1927.

While at Leyden he met and became friendly with Dr Anton Michels who was studying the properties of gases at high pressures in the Thermodynamical Laboratory of Amsterdam. It was through this friendship that Michels came to develop high pressure apparatus for ICI, and the ICI research management conceived the idea that at pressures of several thousand atmospheres reactions might occur that did not happen otherwise.

It was a great act of faith by ICI in the depths of the World Depression, and facing the collapse of their heavy chemicals business, to embark in 1931 on this speculative research. Gibson was the chemist allo-

ated to this project, which for two years produced nothing of commercial interest.

However, on March 24, 1933, by which time he had been joined by E. W. Fawcett, they carried out an experiment trying to react ethylene with benzaldehyde under 1900 atm. of pressure. They did not succeed, but when they opened up the pressure vessel they found about half a gram of a "waxy solid". That was the first polyethylene ever made.

After many setbacks, delays and frustrations, the ICI team developed a unique high pressure manufacturing process which came into production in 1939, just in time to enable radar to play its decisive role in the air defence of Great Britain. In the words of Sir Robert Watson-Watt: "The availability of polythene transformed the design, production, installation and maintenance problems of radar from the almost insoluble to the comfortably manageable."

By that time Gibson had moved into other research fields, working on the production of "anti-knock" additives for aviation fuel, and in 1948 he left ICI and joined the Associated Ocel Company. He founded and managed their Research Department, and became Technical Director.

After his retirement in 1963 he continued to play an active part in professional affairs for some years. He was able to be present at, and enjoy, the Polyethylenes Jubilee Conference in London in June this year.

The original "Hoot" Gibson had been a character in the Wild West films of the 1920s, and so naturally R. O. Gibson became "Hoot" and had been known as such with affection by all his friends ever since.

He survived by his two sons, Ronald and John, and daughter Shena.

More positively, special facilities for the transport of invalids by air were devised: within a few years, the number of invalids carried annually rose from about 50 to the outset to some 3,000.

At all stations used by BOAC arrangements had to be made for the medical care and treatment of passengers and crew in transit, as well as locally-based and visiting UK staff. To ensure this, George Whittingham and his team had to visit each station regularly to ascertain at first hand the best medical facilities available locally, and to maintain a liaison with the doctors and hospitals concerned.

He also regularly inspected accommodation provided for aircrew stopping off to rest and wait for the next flight. Close contact was maintained too with the World Health Organisation and with IATA to ensure that the medical requirements for airlines were kept as up to date as practical.

In addition, George Whittingham was one of the first to arrive at the scene of an aircraft crash in which there was injury or death. This was not only to care for the injured but also, in his capacity as a member of BOAC's Air Safety Committee, to help in establishing whether the cause of the accident was human error or technical failure.

All of us who now travel along the air routes of the world with such apparent ease and immunity owe much to the pioneering work of George Whittingham and his colleagues.

considered it proper to work part-time only.

Her last years were somewhat clouded by the prolonged investigation into the affairs of the Crown Agents and by the untimely death of her elder daughter. But they were equally enhanced and brightened by her grandchildren, her music, her garden and by the steadfast love and support of her husband, Francis.

She undertook with pleasure a number of voluntary offices, including those of Honorary Treasurer to the Aldeburgh Festival, and Associate Fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge.

Her career was not achieved at the expense of her family; when her children were young she

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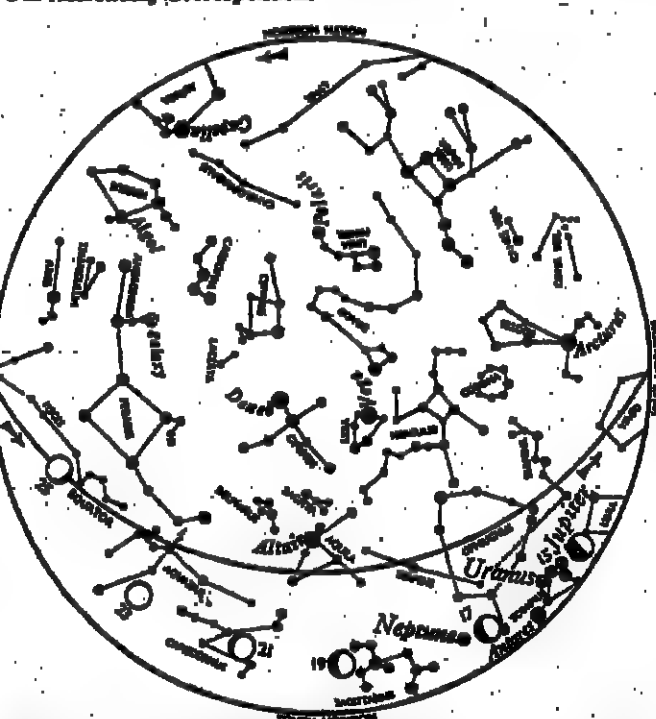
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The sky at night in August

By Our Astronomy Correspondent



The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the months of August at 22h (11 pm) at the beginning, 22h (10 pm) in the middle and 21h (9 pm) at the end of the month, local mean time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg. west of Greenwich and earlier by the same amount if the place is east. The map should be turned so that the horizon of the observer is facing (shown by the words around the diagram) at the bottom. The north being at the centre, Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time, and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes.

most of us have probably not noticed it yet. From July 1 to August 31 daylight shortens by nearly three hours, roughly evenly divided between morning and evening. Correspondingly twilight has shortened too, and "astronomical twilight" when the Sun is less than 18° below the horizon no longer lasts all night. At the beginning of the month the sky will be completely dark (not, alas, for towns dwellers) from 22h-44m to 1h-24m.

From the 7th to the 16th there will be no moonlight either, so it will be possible to see the full splendour of the Milky Way. It is high in the sky at this time of year, its approximate path on our map being from Auriga in the north to

Sagittarius in the south. It is least bright in the Auriga area, a double stream in the Cygnus region, and at its brightest in Sagittarius.

It states above that until the 16th there will be no Moon; discerning readers may notice that on the map there definitely is a Moon on the 15th. The map shows correctly the position of Luna relative to the horizon on the 1st, half a month earlier.

In that half month, the sky will have turned westward by 15 degrees about Polaris at centre, and this will have carried Luna and Moon over the horizon. So there will be

Investment and Finance

City Editor
Anthony Hilton

SALES & MARKETING

City Office
200 Gray's Inn Road
London WC1X 8E2
Telephone 01-837 1234

JOCK EXCHANGES

Index: 719.0 up 10.1
H Shares: 451.63 down 0.33
Value: 18,988
stream USM Leaders
at 97.22 up 0.38
York: Dow Jones
age (latest) 1,252.10 up

Nikkei Dow Jones
x 9,062.37 up 56.89
Kongs: Hang Seng
at 100.85 down 7.31
terday: 150.8 up 2.1
syr: AO Index: 678.5 up

Commerzbank
x 978.7 up 8.7
syr: General Index
1 up 1.8
CAC Index: 130.9 up

SKA General: 291.9

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
ing \$1.5280 up 30pts
85.3 up 0.2
0075
2.0325
37.75
126.8 up 0.2
6210

EW YORK LATEST
ing \$1.5285
INTERNATIONAL
0.56895
0.695478

INTEREST RATES

Rate rates:
ates 9%
houses base rate 10%
market loans week

Interbank 9 15/16 to 9

currency rates:
in dollar 10/10
in DM 5 3/16 to 5 1/16
in Fr 13 1/2 to 13 1/2

Fixed Rate Sterling
Finance Scheme IV
reference rate for
a period June 2 to July 5,
clusive: 9 8/8 per cent.

GOLD

in fixed (per ounce), am
\$426.25
\$427.25 (279.75) up

York latest: \$428.25
Tend (per coin): \$440-
11287.50-288.50
100.5-
100.5-
des VAT

TODAY

MacCardinal Inv. Derby
Jacobs J.I. Nottingham
Manufacturing: Portsmouth
Bundeland Newspapers
J. Xerox Corp (2nd qtr)
Arlington Mr. Cook
Fitch L. Jarvis J. Nova
Int. Norton Opan. Mid
y Knit.
omic: StatelEnergy
(May): Overseas travel
outism (May): Unemploy-
and unfilled vacancies
final: Employment in the
tion industries (May):
ages of work due to
trial disputes (June-final):
me and short time work-
final: Quarterly estimate of
tees in employment (1st

INUAL MEETINGS

est Foods, Institute of
tors, 116 Pall Mall, SW1
British Steam
Leicester Group, Grand
Investments, Midland
Manchester (230)
re Risk Capital, The
ry, Chiswell Street EC1
Makhat Mother-
Chartered Accountants
41 Copthall Ave, EC2
Battersea Hall, Ex-
Southwark, Halifax
Box, Plasterers
London Wall, EC2
Chapman International,
no Cross Hotel, WC2
UKO International
Cavendish Hotel, SW1

NOTEBOOK

Shares are being sold by
Government again. But
are the company's
pects? Shares bought
by the previous sale have
been appreciated in real
s. This time, however, it
is different.
Midland's small
Midland's engineering
any, lost £647,000. It
1 return to profit this year
redundancies and reorga-
nization of drop forging. But
is company vulnerable to a
over attempt?

Move will bolster capital base and expansion

Midland launches £155m rights issue as second-half profits jump 43%

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank took advantage of better-than-expected half-year results to launch a £155m rights issue yesterday. The issue is intended to bolster the group's capital base, which has been among the weakest of the big four clearers, and to provide funds for expansion and capital investment of £300m over the next four years.

The bank's pretax profits for the first six months of the calendar year rose by 43 per cent over the same period a year ago, to £136m. They were £20m lower than the seasonally stronger second half of 1982.

Midland's shares rose from 412p to 427p yesterday. The terms of the rights issue are fairly generous: one new share at 350p is being offered to shareholders for every four held and the new shares will rank for the half-year dividend. This is being raised from 8p net to 11p to reduce the gap between the

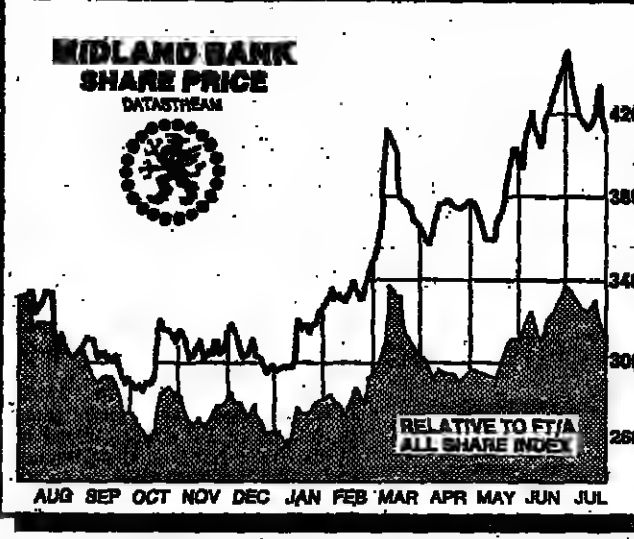
much larger end-of-year dividend, and Midland is promising at least to maintain 1983 dividends on the enlarged share capital.

Midland has long been expected to raise fresh capital and has seized the chance now that profits are on a rising trend after several poor years.

The improvement in profits was well spread, but the domestic side of the group made most of the running, increasing pre-interest profits by more than one-fifth to 63 per cent of the group total.

Domestic bad-debt provisions were up - though not as sharply as on the international side - but higher charges for personal and corporate customers, better lending margins and cost control kept profits moving.

Crocker National, the Californian subsidiary, contributed 37 per cent more at £28.5m pretax, and currency move-



ments helped boost international profits. But the improvement in international was partly trimmed back by higher provisions, particularly at the loss-making trade finance sub-

Midland echoed the optimism of NatWest that had debts could now be on a downward trend.

Group profits included £16.4m from sales of gilts compared with a £800,000 loss in the first half of 1982.

Midland is continuing its attack on costs. Excluding Crocker, staff numbers fell by 500 in the six months and staff costs - up 9 per cent compared with a year ago - were none the less 2 per cent down.

Sir Donald Barron, chairman, was wary about group prospects but said: "We see the steps we have taken producing improving results".

Sterling lending by the clearing banks rose by 8 per cent in the six months and the balance sheet expanded from £48bn to £53bn. The group's free capital ratio deteriorated slightly from 3.98 per cent to 3.86 per cent despite the conversion of £54m of loan stock. But the rights issue will push the ratio back up to about 4.2 per cent.

Central America to appeal for aid

From Bailey Morris, Washington

Finance ministers of 15 Central American nations, while carefully avoiding a response to the political initiatives of the United States, have announced plans to hold a high-level meeting in Europe to appeal for external economic help to avoid further social strife in their countries.

Preparations for the meeting, to be held in September in the EEC offices in Brussels, were outlined in Washington by Senator Rodolfo Silva, minister of the President of Costa Rica.

Senator Silva said that to "preclude larger scale social unrest of the type we are now seeing", the governments of six Central American nations have decided to appeal for a large, unspecified amount of external help from European and Asian governments and private commercial banks.

Plans for the international economic appeal have been going on for almost a year and were being completed at a meeting this week in Washington at the Inter-American Development Bank by ministers from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Panama.

Senator Silva, at a briefing for reporters, said he would rather not comment on whether the new US initiatives announced by President Reagan would help or hurt the economic appeal planned by the Central American governments.

He indicated, however, that Central American governments were not interested in a comprehensive type of Marshall plan which has been suggested as an appropriate goal of the newly appointed US commission, headed by Dr Henry Kissinger.

A Marshall plan implied the need for reconstruction of nations requiring more than economic help, Senator Silva said, adding that Central American countries regarded themselves as underdeveloped nations.

Over the past two difficult years, in which social strife has grown and commodity prices for Central American staples such as coffee have plummeted, it has become apparent that the region needs a big inflow of external capital and new government-to-government agreements that will ensure markets for its exports.

"We need help from all sources whether it be Japan, the United States, Europe or Canada," Senator Silva said.

In deciding to seek this assistance in a more-or-less neutral European capital, the Central American governments decided to do it as unit including the leftist government of Nicaragua, which is at odds with the Reagan Administration.

Senator Silva said despite their belief that other governments and private banks would seek to help some countries more than others, the decision was taken by Central American officials to stay together as a region and not exclude Nicaragua.

Western governments will meet in Paris tomorrow to discuss whether to reopen debt rescheduling talks with Poland. The meeting, under the aegis of the informal Paris Club, which handles government debt reschedulings, is likely to examine implications of the recent lifting of martial law in Poland. Over half of Poland's \$27bn hard currency debt is government-guaranteed or owed directly to Western governments.

GKN bids £51m for AE

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Guest: Kean & Nettelfold, the biggest company in Britain's depressed engineering sector, has made a £51m offer for AE, formerly Associated Engineering, and a big force in the car components business. The bid was immediately rejected as inadequate.

The offer, if successful, would mark the start of a shake-up in the engine parts sector and continue the rationalization of the engineering industry that GKN appears to be intent on leading.

GKN is offering three ordinary shares for 10 AE shares which, with GKN up 7p yesterday to 169p, is worth 50.7p for each AE share. AE jumped 16p on the news of 52p.

GKN said yesterday that both companies had suffered in Britain from weak demand in engine parts manufacture and automotive parts distribution and profit levels had been unacceptably low.

"For some time the boards of GKN and AE have together been considering how improved performance might be achieved, but although some measure of broad agreement has been reached, it has not been possible to reach agreement in detail."

Shareholders at Coalite Group's annual meeting at the Savoy Hotel yesterday shouted down a move from the floor to sell off the group's Falkland Island Company. Instead, they passed a vote of confidence in Mr Ted Needham, the group chairman.

The move came from Dr Frank Hansford-Miller, who referred to the "invidious publicity".

Closure programme confirmed by NCB

By David Young

The National Coal Board yesterday confirmed that it is technically insolvent and that a programme of pit closure will be introduced by Mr Ian MacGregor, the incoming chairman.

The coal board's annual accounts show a loss of £111m at the end of March this year, after taking into account a Government grant of £374m and interest payments of £366m.

Pits which are classed as worn-out account for the most expensive 12 per cent of coal output, which last year cost £275m.

Sir Norman Siddall, the present chairman of the coal board said yesterday: "It cannot be right that a small proportion of our total output, mined from persistently unprofitable pits with no prospect of viability, should be responsible for the greater part of both surplus output and financial losses."

Sir Norman added that the new low-cost production facilities which were now coming on stream should lead to a turnaround in the coal industry's fortunes. Production targets of 10 tonnes per man-shift were now being regularly achieved and the British coal industry's absenteeism record was now the best in Europe.

The coal board's losses have been forecast widely and the necessity for closure of high-cost pits was the main recommendation in the recent report on the coal board by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

A programme of closures of unprofitable pits is likely to be announced by Mr Ian MacGregor shortly after his takeover as chairman on September 1, with an announcement of a freeze on coal prices and the acceleration of the coal board's plans for the opening of new capacity in the new low-cost coalfields.

Mr MacGregor will inherit an industry faced with stocks of coal at 55 million tonnes, twice the normal summer level.

THE BRITISH & COMMONWEALTH SHIPPING COMPANY PLC



At the Annual General Meeting on July 27th the Chairman, Lord Cayan, made the following remarks which are supplementary to his statement which accompanied the Accounts:

The results for the past year speak for themselves and it is the sum of the assorted activities that make up the whole. Let me mention a few.

When we decided some years ago to reduce our interest in shipping, clearly this was a turning point. It was not an easy thing to do, as tradition dies hard and we had been associated with shipping since our inception, but I am as convinced now as I was then that it was the right thing to do. Today our interest in shipping includes approximately twenty per cent of the shares of both OCL and Salfmarina. Although they are going through a difficult time, I believe they have a viable future. We have kept a small direct interest in shipping, a foot in the door so to speak, with effectively two bulkers - one of them recently acquired at what we believe is a realistic price - two refrigerated ships integrated into Universal Reefers (a joint company with other shipowners) and two oil products tankers, one of which is in the Falkland Islands.

A strong British presence in the world of shipping is desirable, but to remain there we have to be competitive and there are many countries which have lower costs than ours. Shipping is important to this country for two main reasons. Firstly, it earns a considerable sum of invisible exports and, secondly, one has to consider it in the context of defence. The Merchant Navy has played a vital role in this sphere, but we shall have to seek guidance from the Ministry of Defence as to how they see this problem; certainly the situation is not as in the past, when the Government could turn to every type of British shipping in an emergency. It is true that we are living in a recession and, hopefully, if trade revives shipping will revive, but we have to be competitive if we are going to survive.

In the air transport field it has been a great relief to see Air UK in the black and making a profit. Much credit is due to our management team for pulling this enterprise back from the brink and it has ceased to be the headache that it was for several years. The desire for lower fares, together with unbridled competition, may lead to future difficulties, for as we have seen there are always those who will venture unwisely and the result can mean bankruptcy for them and damage to the long term operator. Nobody can be expected to run scheduled services without some security of tenure.

Alan Bristow and his helicopters continue to flourish. I believe there are still new opportunities to be found in this industry and that it will continue to make a major contribution to group profits.

In the field of aviation and support services, Airwork has had a good year and I have no reason to think that it will not continue to succeed and, I hope, break fresh ground.

It is pleasing that after many disappointments our hotels in the Canary Islands are now showing a profit; thanks mainly to dynamic local management.

I now come to one of the most interesting developments during the course of the period under review and continuing into the present year. In my speech to you last year, I referred to changes in Cayan, Gartmore. We were already shareholders in Exco International, as well as Telerate which went public some months ago, and the opportunity presented itself to link up with Exco in the fund management, unit trust and venture capital fields. We have admired the enterprise and good judgement that the Exco Board and management have shown and we thought that this was too good an opportunity to miss. Accordingly, we agreed to join hands with them and together I believe that we shall be able to make progress in this endeavour.

We have always thought that if we are to survive we have to meet changing situations and new innovations. Accordingly, one of our most interesting new projects was to take a stake in a biotechnology company called Celltech and we anticipate increasing our investment in this company. The scientist has much to

City Editor's Comment

No way to enter the 21st century

The deal stitched up between the Government and the Stock Exchange will disappoint a lot of people other than the pension funds and insurance companies it was designed to accommodate, but who must now wait up to three years for the benefit.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Trade and Industry Secretary, said he made the deal because the effective operation of the Stock Exchange was "essential to the working of the economy."

It would be more to the point to say it was essential to the Government's multi-billion privatization programme, which will test the market's capacity severely.

In setting virtually on the Stock Exchange council's terms, Mr Parkinson has confused two issues. The long-running Restrictive Practices Court action on the Exchange's rule book was always the wrong way to reform such a complex, living institution.

The Stock Exchange was right to press this case. But to reject the court is not to reject the reform. Here, the Exchange itself is still acting as a conservative monopoly, dragging its feet, threatening the rapid technical developments now possible. This deal will not produce the Stock Exchange we need for the twenty-first century.

On such, however, is Mr Walter Eltis of Oxford University, writing for stockbrokers Rowe and Pitman. After pointing out that the Chancellor cannot hope to cut taxes and reduce public borrowing unless growth exceeds 2 per cent, Mr Eltis says some further boost to the economy may come from exports.

So far the expected pickup in exports from a lower pound and reviving world activity has not materialized, he says, though there are signs that import growth may be less than in previous recoveries. If Britain is indeed beating the import challenge and if exports take off, 3 to 4 per cent per annum growth could be on the cards, he suggests. Well, it is a thought...

The elusive recovery

Since spring 1981 when Britain is supposed to have hit bottom in the recession, the economy has staged the most sluggish recovery seen since the war - so sluggish that the National Institute for Economic and Social Research has questioned whether it could be called a recovery at all.

One suspects that the Institute, on this question,

contribute to the future of mankind and I believe, and hope, that Celltech will play its part, but one of the aims must be to combine the fruits of research with marketing expertise. You may have read in the Press that Celltech and Boots are seeking to establish a joint venture which is aiming at a quick penetration of the rapidly expanding market for human and animal diagnostics using certain technologically advanced products developed by Celltech.

In our varied activities we depend on people. Ours is not a centralised or bureaucratic business. Our success, such as it is, lies in the effort and ingenuity of those who are involved in our different companies. At the centre our main aim must be to point in the right direction and to provide the sinews of success. I am most grateful to all those working in our group who this year have produced such good results.

Over the years that I have had the honour to be your Chairman, I have never concealed from you my opinion of how important for industry and commerce is the climate of politics. There are services which government has to provide, but I believe that we are better to leave as many activities as possible to the market; that is, to those enterprising men and women who exist in our society and who are ready to venture and in doing so, help to create the wealth on which we all depend. I have never had any time for the theoretical do-gooders; one has to create wealth before it can be distributed. I have never agreed with public ownership; it is generally wasteful and there is not the incentive to succeed and I deplore the indiscriminate spending of money by central and local authorities.

I am sure that Mrs. Thatcher's Government thinks along the lines I have described. Her opponents are loud in lamentation that some of the wasteful bureaucracy could come to an end, but we shall never get on our feet and make our way in the world again unless we have the courage to face change. This does mean hard decisions. It would seem the Unionists need to find a new purpose and a new direction and it is interesting that even some of their members seem to think so.

We now have a new Government with a second term of office and I believe the objective is as before and that the Prime Minister has the determination to change the attitudes which have, since the War ended, carried this country into deeper and deeper trouble. The priorities have not changed; the curbing of inflation; productivity and value for money in the public sector. We import far too many of our consumer goods and we must become more competitive at home. Quality and value for money commands the market and creates jobs. There are signs that the depression is beginning to give way to better times and we must take advantage of any opportunity. Of course, defence and law and order must also command our continuing attention.

Finally, to return to our own affairs, I feel reasonably confident that your Company should see some improvement upon the results of 1982 and we shall continue to strive to this end.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS		
	1982	1981
Year ended 31st December		
Profit before taxation	36,828	28,309
Profit before extraordinary items	19,562	16,579
Shareholders' funds	230,091	194,231
Earnings per ordinary stock unit of 50p	55.0p	46.5p
Dividends per ordinary stock unit of 50p (net)	15.5p	12.27p

For a copy of the Report & Accounts telephone 01-283 4943 or write to the Company at Cayan House, 2 & 4 St. Mary Axe, London EC3A 8BP.

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ALMADEN TRADE AND FINANCE S.A.
50 HANS CRESCENT
KNIGHTSBRIDGE LONDON SW1X 0NA
TEL 01 551 1805

Name _____
Address _____
Business Telephone No _____

One of our staff will call to discuss your diary requirement for 1984.

THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

The Ministry wishes to appoint a consultancy firm to undertake the development, implementation and initial operation of a Project Management System for its highway projects, together with related training of Ministry staff.

The Project Management System will effect administrative and technical controls at each stage of the design process, financial and time controls during project execution and subsequent maintenance; it will also include computer reporting methods suitable for the various levels of management in the Ministry.

The Ministry invites consultancy firms or joint ventures of proven capability and experience to apply for prequalification questionnaires on or before 8/11/1403 AH (16/8/1983) to:

Tender and Contracts Department,
Ministry of Communications,
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
Telex No. 201616 HWAY SA.

Applications should be marked 'Application for Project Management System' and include a brief and concise resume of the firm or joint venture and its capability of undertaking the project. Prequalification questionnaires completed with the required information should be returned to this Ministry not later than Saturday 17/12/1403 AH (24/8/1983). Any questionnaires arriving after that date will not be taken into consideration.

Dr. Hassan M. Al Saleem,
Deputy Minister of Communications,
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

The Ministry wishes to appoint a consultancy firm to undertake the development, implementation and initial operation of a Maintenance Management System for the (approximately) 30,000 km of paved highways under the Ministry's jurisdiction, together with related training of Ministry staff.

The Maintenance Management System will include the development of maintenance policies, the identification of maintenance requirements through measurement techniques, and related systems development.

The Ministry invites consultancy firms or joint ventures of proven capability and experience to apply for a prequalification questionnaire on or before 8/11/1403 AH (16/8/1983) to:

Tender and Contracts Department,
Ministry of Communications,
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
Telex No. 201616 HWAY SA.

Applications should be marked 'Application for Maintenance Management System' and include a brief and concise resume of the firm or joint venture and its capability of undertaking the project. Prequalification questionnaires completed with the required information should be returned to this Ministry not later than Saturday 17/12/1403 AH (24/8/1983). Any questionnaires arriving after that date will not be taken into consideration.

Dr. Hassan M. Al Saleem,
Deputy Minister of Communications,
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

MARLING INDUSTRIES plc

Manufacturers of Industrial Textiles

Unaudited results for the year ended 31 March 1983

	£000's	1982
Turnover:	28,074	22,168
Pre-Tax profit:	578	1,577
Dividend for year, per share:	1.08p	1.06p
Earnings per share:	2.48p	10.56p

"After a difficult year profits are now running at a pleasing level".
July 20, 1983

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IADB)

\$75,000,000 12 1/4% Loan Stock 2003 (the "Stock")

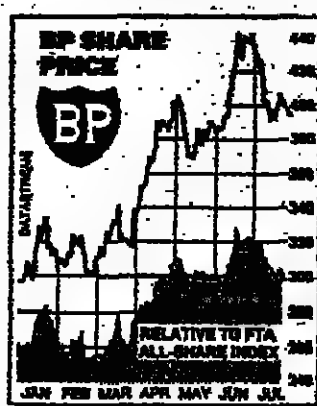
Notice of Purchase of the Stock for Cancellation

Pursuant to Clause 20 of the Purchase Agency Agreement (the "Agreement") dated December 8th, 1982 between IADB and Baring Brothers & Co., Limited as Purchase Agent, it is hereby announced that, in the six months preceding July 8th, 1983, \$300,000 nominal of the Stock was purchased and cancelled under the terms of the Agreement. Such Stock was purchased and cancelled in respect of the period ending January 8th, 1984.

Baring Brothers & Co., Limited
on behalf of
Inter-American Development Bank

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Priest

Why BP still looks a tempting buy



Investors who bought BP shares the last time the Government unloaded some of its holding and hung on to them are little better off today than they were then.

The shares were sold at 363p in the autumn of 1979. Today they stand at just under £4, admittedly after what has been an extremely lively four-year ride.

Even allowing for the rights issue two years ago, there has been precious little in the way of real capital appreciation in nominal terms the gain is about 25 per cent.

In the meantime, both BP and the oil business generally have been turned upside down by the abrupt switch from oil crisis to today's oil glut.

Nevertheless, there seems little doubt that the latest tranche of BP stock offered by Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, will be well received in the market when it comes, probably in the early autumn. For all its well-documented problems, BP still looks a much more attractive prospect than (say) the British Gas portfolio of proven North Sea oil investments.

The Chancellor should be able to dispose of the 7 per cent of BP he needs to sell to raise his £500m: quite easily at a discount of say 20p to 30p to today's price. At that level, the offer will be tempting.

Although to all intents and purposes, BP continues to be a two-pipeline company, its downstream problems in refining and chemicals are finally beginning to diminish after several long and bleak years. Gradual elimination of these

losses should help to boost net income this year from £716m to £830m or so on a published basis, and from £627m to £900m-plus on the more realistic underlying current cost basis, with more to come next year. This implies a more than solid prospective yield of 8 per cent.

A new collapse in the price of oil cannot be ruled out, despite all the confident noises being made by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the oil companies. But this downside risk is balanced - the way things look at the moment, anyway - by the longer-term potential of BP's exploration prospects in offshore China and Alaska.

Pessimists will say that oil is not going to show much growth in the medium term; this may be true. Clearly nobody should desert about BP until one sees the colour of Mr Lawson's prospectus.

But at this early stage, BP looks a better buy than it did in 1979.

Benjamin Priest

Benjamin Priest
Year to 1.4.83
Pre-tax loss £247,000 (£26,000 profit)
Stated earnings loss £24p (£14p)
Turnover £41m (£41.4m)
Final dividend 0.1p (0.1p)
Dividend payable 10.63

Engineering especially in the West Midlands, has been a sector for investors with drooping nerves. Despite signals of improvements elsewhere in the economy, the latest figures from Benjamin Priest - the second loss in the three years of the recession - show how tough the going is for small engineering companies.

Demand failed to pick up in the final quarter after the collapse in the middle of last year, and the second half was uncomfortably similar to the first.

Components for the car industry - which account for about 30 per cent of turnover - suffered from stiff competition and low margins; building products and material handling both geared to the capital spending cycle, were hard-pressed.

But the full year figures also indicate that the underlying trend is improving. Priest reported a first half pre-tax loss of £324,000, and the second half loss includes redundancy costs of £207,000.

Therefore, the trading deficit of £116,000 in the second six months looks like a step in the right direction. Most of the extraordinary loss of £1.2m was the cost of the drop-forging reorganization.

Moreover, business is probably gathering pace.

After the reorganization of drop-forging into a single factory Priest is one of the biggest companies in the industry.

Yet with gearing steady at 68 per cent, earnings improving and weak businesses on a better footing, it is a dangerous period for Priest.

Harsh though it sounds, this might be the most desirable consummation for Priest shareholders.

Gearing ratios

On the subject of takeovers, it is a telling point that the gearing of British companies is just about at its lowest ever. After the horror stories about high interest rates and the need to borrow during the recession, this might seem surprising.

But the average percentage of net debt to net worth for industrial companies was just 25.1 per cent at the end of 1981, according to figures from Hoare Govett. The comparable figure for the end of this year is forecast at 23.3 per cent.

The rash of rights issues has, of course, played its part in reducing the ratio, but the main constituent is improving profits, which are expected to rise by 18 per cent this year.

This combination of low gearing, rising profits and access to cash is bound to tempt companies with takeover ambitions.

After all, buying profits is a lot easier and produces quicker results in the present economic climate than starting from scratch.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Official London Market Report

Prices are quoted in pounds per tonne unless otherwise stated

Contract month: 1983-84

Contract month: 1984-85

Contract month: 1985-86

Contract month: 1986-87

Contract month: 1987-88

Contract month: 1988-89

Contract month: 1989-90

Contract month: 1990-91

Contract month: 1991-92

Contract month: 1992-93

Contract month: 1993-94

Contract month: 1994-95

Contract month: 1995-96

Contract month: 1996-97

Contract month: 1997-98

Contract month: 1998-99

Contract month: 1999-00

Contract month: 2000-01

Contract month: 2001-02

Contract month: 2002-03

Contract month: 2003-04

Contract month: 2004-05

Contract month: 2005-06

Contract month: 2006-07

Contract month: 2007-08

Contract month: 2008-09

Contract month: 2009-10

Contract month: 2010-11

Contract month: 2011-12

Contract month: 2012-13

Contract month: 2013-14

Contract month: 2014-15

Contract month: 2015-16

Contract month: 2016-17

Contract month: 2017-18

Contract month: 2018-19

Contract month: 2019-20

Contract month: 2020-21

Contract month: 2021-22

Contract month: 2022-23

Contract month: 2023-24

Contract month: 2024-25

Contract month: 2025-26

Contract month: 2026-27

Contract month: 2027-28

Contract month: 2028-29

Contract month: 2029-30

Contract month: 2030-31

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Contract month: 2101-02

Contract month: 2102-03

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Contract month: 2104-05

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Contract month: 2108-09

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Contract month: 2115-16

Contract month: 2116-17

Contract month: 2117-18

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Contract month: 2119-20

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Contract month: 2124-25

Contract month: 2125-26

Contract month: 2126-27

Contract month: 2127-28

Contract month: 2128-29

Contract month: 2129-30

Contract month: 2130-31

Contract month: 2131-32

Marketing and advertising: Torin Douglas

Why a precarious local radio needs a healthy capital

the battle for the plum contract for the Independent Local Radio network, at present held by Capital Radio, is likely to be decided as much by the needs of the radio stations and the financial well-being of the local radio system as it is by the needs of the Londoners the station will serve.

Ten years after the launch of the local radio network and with 40 stations on air, the London General and Entertainment contractor still dominates the network, accounting for a quarter of radio revenue and owning, through its primary subsidiary, secondary rental payments the IBA, a large slice of the network funding on which the system depends.

Such financial facts of life seem to favour Capital's chances of retaining its contract, all these contests organized by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, whether in favour of or in radio, the incumbent starts off favourite, has a track record, whereas challengers can only offer promises. And the local radio system's need for a strong financial station means that there is more at stake than the mere question of whether London is

getting the best possible programme service.

Radio is by no means a licence to print money. Last year, a third of the 34 stations made losses, despite a 20 per cent increase in the network's advertising revenue, while a further four made less than £10,000 profit. Though some of these losses came from new stations and other stations did well, the precarious nature of the radio business, which has seen 16 station managing directors change jobs in the last 12 months, most of them involuntarily, might be thought to make the IBA loath to tamper with its largest and most profitable station.

Yet Capital's main challenger, Metropolitan Radio, will argue, when it meets the members of the IBA in September that its own plans will benefit the network most. Taking the bull by the horns, it has come to terms with the fact that Capital's financial well-being is crucial to the system, and has put forward a number of proposals specifically designed to assist local radio as a whole.

"One of our priorities, in addition to providing a good

ILR STATIONS PROFITABILITY

Station	1982	1983
Capital	1,513	1,771
City	445	158
LBC	442	136
BRMB	429	45
2CR	287	143
Hullam	194	208
Clyde	112	275
Deccan	94	95
Downbeat	76	38
Thames Valley	67	187
Southern Sound	53	95
Forth	35	34
Chilham	33	43
Seasound	17	14
Plymouth Sound	12	49
R. West	11	13
Metro	8	8
Parade	8	8
Mersey Sound	3	5
Horwath	1	2
Mersey	1	1
North Sound	1	1
Tay	1	1
Orwell	1	1
Transit	1	1
Teas	1	1
Cardiff	1	1
Victory	1	1
West Sound	1	1
Aire	1	1
Centre	1	1

*Years to September 30.

radio service for Londoners, is the ILR network," says Mr Robert Kennedy, Metropolitan's managing director and a former director of Capital. "We intend to make 500,000 shares available to those ILR stations serving less than one million people, so that the smaller stations can share in the profits of the largest, and we shall be investing £100,000 in a special network programming fund to provide programmes specifically for the network, rather than for ourselves."

Two other elements of the Metropolitan application are designed to help the radio business, Mr Kennedy says. The first - though this is not spelt out in the document - is that

Metropolitan's proposed advertising rates are 35 per cent higher than Capital's. The second is that by budgeting for a higher profit than Capital on a lower turnover, incidentally - it will pay more to the IBA in secondary rental.

The increase in the ratecard has been made in the belief that Capital's rates are holding down those of other stations outside London. "We believe radio airtime is being sold too cheaply," says Mr Kennedy. "In all other media, advertisers pay a premium for London."

Mr Kennedy concedes that the volume of advertising might fall as a result of the 35 per cent increase in rates, but he believes it would be only a temporary fall and that the net revenue would in any case remain the same. Nor does he concede that it would make radio less attractive to advertisers.

Capital's managing director, Mr Nigel Walsley, is, however, frankly incredulous at the idea. Until last autumn he was board member for marketing at the Post Office, and he says he heard similar arguments there from rival concerns about rates being too cheap and he does not believe them.

Capital has told the IBA it expects pretax profits of £1.2m on revenue of £19.5m in 1985 and of £1.4m on £22.3m by 1987, assuming inflation of 7 per cent a year. Metropolitan is forecasting, at today's prices, pretax profits of £2m on revenue of £14.8m in 1985 and of £2.9m on £16.7m in 1987.

"Good programming costs money and our programme expenditure figures are much higher than theirs," says Mr Walsley. "Things such as talks and outside broadcasts are very manpower-intensive - they are absolutely fundamental and they cannot be done on a shoestring." On the question of network programming, he points out that Capital has

offered 60 programmes or series to the network in the past year.

In addition he points to the "punitive" level of royalty payments that have to be made to the copyright agencies for the use of music, a level which is still being contested by the radio stations. "For a music-based station it is a very high element of our costs," he says. Metropolitan, by contrast, as a new company, would start at a lower level of payments, saving itself some £1m in its first year.

Mr Kennedy maintains that it is for this reason that Capital is paying so much in programming, since there is no incentive for it to trim its costs.

But that is not the reason why the profit performance of most stations looked weak last year: most stations were doing their utmost to trim costs simply to keep in the black. While last year's 30 per cent revenue increase for radio looks good on paper, Saatchi & Saatchi points out that it is "exaggerated" by being related to a low base figure for 1981 and was shared among more stations. Radio is still taking only 2 per cent of the total advertising market - a much lower share than in most other countries - and there are no signs of this percentage increasing.

For this reason, claims that we shall see a flood of radio stations coming to the Unlisted Securities Market need to be viewed with caution. It is true that while both Capital and Metropolitan have stated their intention to float part of their shareholdings, and that other major stations whose franchises are up for renewal in the next year - Radio Clyde in Glasgow, Piccadilly Radio in Manchester and BRMB Radio in Birmingham - might see the USM as a good way of impressing the IBA that they are opening up their shareholdings to a wider public. But the fact is that radio stations profits can be volatile.

COALITE GROUP

"Enterprise breeds on confidence in the future. The General Election result has quenched political anxieties for the duration of another parliamentary term and the process of restoring the country's competitive ability on the basis of sound money and productive jobs can continue. It was clear at the outset that the process of reversal and recovery would be painful and slow but we now have the awaited signs of business improvement and it is to be hoped the momentum will be sustained."

During the recession, our resources have been progressively consolidated to provide a sound basis from which our various activities can take full advantage of the gradual recovery now coming into view."

Ted Needham, Chairman

(From Chairman's Statement)

	1983	1982
	£000	£000
GROUP RESULTS		
Turnover	415,925	406,869
Profit before tax	27,340	23,861
Tax	11,637	8,210
Dividends	4,343	3,896
Earnings per share	18.26p	18.20p

The main activities of the group comprise solid smokeless fuel manufacture, oil and chemicals processing, fuel distribution, vehicle building and distribution, transport, warehousing and shipping services, builders' merchandising, instrument manufacture, and sheep farming in the Falkland Islands.

Far East Fund Manager

A leading London fund management group with a reputation for outstanding investment performance in the U.K. and U.S. markets, wishes to add to its team an investment manager, who can achieve a similar reputation with a fund investing in Japan and the Far East.

The manager, male or female, will have a considerable degree of autonomy in the management of the fund and would be publicly identified with it. An appropriate salary will be paid.

Confidential Reply Service: Please write with full CV quoting reference 1833/JE on your envelope listing separately any company to whom you do not wish your details to be sent. CV's will be forwarded directly to our client, who will conduct the interviews. Charles Barker Recruitment Limited, 30 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4EA.

Charles Barker

ADVERTISING • SELECTION • SEARCH

CHURCHBURY ESTATES plc

The Annual General Meeting took place yesterday, 27th July

The achievement of our objectives in terms of the portfolio, balance sheet and profitability at Law Land has altered significantly the nature of the Group, as well as the opportunities open to it. Certain of these, in particular the potential of the two principal property investments, are of a medium term nature. We are thus naturally also considering various ways of advancing shareholders' interests in the shorter term.

In the current year and in the light of present earnings we expect that the dividend per share will again be increased.

OLIVER MARRIOTT
Chairman

May & Hassell PLC

(The Importers and Merchants)

Extracts from the Statement to Shareholders by the Chairman, Mr P. J. Atley
Year ended 31st March 1983

RESULTS. After two very difficult loss making years the Group has returned to profit which at the pre-tax stage is £728,000. Business has been taking place in a healthier climate and the trade has a more realistic approach to the need to see a return on assets employed. Supply and demand are now in balance to the benefit of both shippers and importers. The Group's journey was performed well in the year.

EXPANSION. New depots have been opened in Sheffield and Hull and Strathclyde Sawmills Ltd acquired in Dumfries, Scotland. Over £1.6m has been invested during the year in plant, buildings and vehicles. This investment programme is continuing.

DIVIDEND. An increased final dividend of 2.5p (1.5p last year) brings the year's total to 3.5p per share.

PROSPECTS. Current turnover in value and volume is up on last year and margins are satisfactory.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS	1983	1982
Turnover	£6,642	49,718
Profit before Interest & Tax	3,064	1,941
Interest paid	(2,271)	(2,319)
Associated Company Loss	(65)	(278)
Profit (Loss) before Tax	728	(656)
Tax	17	(45)
Minority Interests	36	76
Extraordinary Items	(83)	(52)
Dividends	698	(678)
Profit (Loss) retained	(274)	(204)
	424	(882)

Copies of the full Chairman's Statement and 1983 Report and Accounts are obtainable from the Secretary, May & Hassell PLC, P.O. Box 150, Bristol BS99 7PH

May & Hassell PLC

Report on the half-year ended 30 June 1983

"We have been able to maintain the momentum generated last year with a significant increase of £41.3m in the Group pre-tax profit over the first half of 1982. This result is particularly encouraging since it reflects improved performances by virtually all of the Group's operations around the world. The drive to maximise opportunities to increase income, as well as to contain costs, has continued."

The Board's plans are for the further growth and development of the Group and for a continuation of the measures which have produced the upward trend in profits. We are proposing a 1 for 4 rights issue which will raise £154.6m; the proceeds will be used to fund the Group's recent expansion, to support the normal lending requirements of the Group's businesses around the world, and to finance the Group's requirements for further capital investment particularly in communications and data processing technology."

Donald Barron, Chairman

Commentary

The Group pre-tax profit for the six months to 30 June 1983 was £136.4m, an increase of 43% over the similar period last year. There was a profit of £17m on the sale of gilts and the bad debt charge was £118.6m compared with £120.8m for the six months ending 31 December 1982 and £196.1m for the whole of 1982.

The performance of the Midland Clearing Bank was encouraging even though the continuing effects of the economic recession resulted in an increase in the charge for bad debts. Lending margins improved, commission income showed a healthy increase and cost control continued vigorously. The number of staff employed reduced by over 500 compared with December 1982.

Despite continuing difficult economic conditions, there was an increase in the pre-tax profits of Clydesdale Bank Group and Northern Bank Group. Forward Trust Group continued to trade soundly, although its performance did not quite match the high level achieved in the corresponding period last year.

Within Midland Bank International Division lending margins and fee income have held up well despite lower lending volumes with costs well contained, but bad debt provisions increased in comparison with the first half of 1982. A similar pattern was experienced by the majority of the international subsidiary companies but difficulties continued to be experienced by Midland Bank Group International Trade Services. A loss was sustained as a result of the continuing worldwide recession.

The second quarter results of Crocker National Corporation were announced on 19 July 1983. The improving trend and the current signs of an upturn in the Californian economy provide encouragement for the future.

Samuel Montagu enjoyed a satisfactory six months with an increase in pre-tax profits over the same period last year. The Thomas Cook Group produced encouraging results in the first half of 1983 with an improved performance in the travel and travellers cheque operations.

A rights issue of 1 for 4 is proposed at a price of 350p per share. The issue is subject to the approval of Shareholders to an increase in the authorised share capital at an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held on 15 August 1983. The shares to be issued will rank pari passu in all respects with those already in issue including the right to the interim dividend.

An interim dividend of 11p per share (first interim for 1982 8p) will be payable on 7 November 1983 to shareholders whose names are on the register of members on 28 September 1983. This increase is intended to reduce the disparity between the first and second interim dividends. The Board anticipates that, in the absence of unforeseen circumstances, the total dividend per share for 1983, on the enlarged share capital, will be no less than that paid in respect of 1982.

Group Results (Unaudited)

	6 months ended 30 June 1983	6 months ended 30 June 1982	Year ended 31 Dec. 1982
	£m	£m	£m
Trading profit of Midland Bank plc and its subsidiaries - Note 2	175.5	134.8	329.0
Share of profits of associated companies	13.3	9.9	28.2
Interest on loan capital	188.8	144.5	357.2
Profit before taxation	52.4	49.4	105.8
Taxation:			
Midland Bank plc and subsidiaries	39.4	32.2	72.8
Associated companies	5.8	1.8	8.9
	45.2	34.0	81.5
Minority interests - share of profits	91.4	61.1	189.9
	(14.3)	(9.7)	(24.0)
Extraordinary Items	77.1	51.4	145.9
	0.8	(1.7)	(1.3)
Profit attributable to members of Midland Bank plc	77.8	49.7	144.6
Dividend	25.1	13.7	43.6
Retained profit	52.6	36.0	101.0
Earnings per share			
Basic	44.8p	30.9p	72.4p
Fully diluted	43.7p	29.2p	67.3p

*Before exceptional taxation credit of £23.9m. The earnings per share after the exceptional tax credit were 86.6p (on a fully diluted basis 80.2p.)

Notes

1. There have been no changes in the accounting policies set out in the 1982 annual report and accounts. The charge for taxation is based on the expected effective rate for the year.

2. Analysis of the trading profit of Midland Bank plc and its subsidiaries.

	6 months ended 30 June 1983	6 months ended 30 June 1982	Year ended 31 Dec. 1982
	£m	£m	£m
Interest income	2,540.8	2,802.2	5,711.0
Interest expense	1,804.1	2,124.7	4,288.0
Net interest income	736.7	687.5	1,445.0
Charge for bad and doubtful debts	118.6	75.3	195.1
Net interest income after charge for bad and doubtful debts	618.1	602.2	1,249.9
Other operating income - Note 3	434.7	510.2	759.5
Net operating income	1,052.8	1,112.4	2,009.4
Operating expenses:			
Staff	530.4	479.1	1,018.7
Premises and equipment	168.7	140.1	299.6
Other	178.2	165.6	361.1
	877.3	784.8	1,679.4
Trading profit of Midland Bank plc and its subsidiaries	175.5	134.8	329.0

3. The profit on sale of fixed interest investments amounts to £19.5m (£0.3m loss for the six months to 30 June 1982 and £44.5m profit for the year 1982).

4. The net new provisions for bad and doubtful debts charged to profit and loss account were as follows:

	6 months ended 30 June 1983	6 months ended 30 June 1982	Year ended 31 Dec. 1982
	£m	£m	£m
Specific provisions	88.8	80.7	182.0
General provision	27.7	14.8	34.1
	116.5	95.5	216.1

5. The net income after taxes of Crocker National Corporation for the first half-year of 1983 was \$31.3m compared with \$32.6m for the same period in 1982. After adjusting for U.K. GAAP and translating into sterling, the pre-tax profit consolidated into the Group figures amounted to £28.5m (1982 £18.1m).

6. The Group results for the year ended 31 December 1982 have been derived from the full accounts for that year which have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and on which the auditors gave an unqualified report.



Midland Bank Group

FAMILY MONEY

LORNA BOURKE
THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS
EVERY SATURDAY

MARKET REPORT by Michael Clark

US influence keeps prices on boil

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, July 18. Dealings end, July 29. Closing Day, Aug 1. Settlement Day, Aug 8.

American influences and a firmer performance on Wall Street continued to keep share prices in London on the boil yesterday. Blue chips again led the advance with the FT Index closing at its high for the day, 10.1 up at 719.0.

Among the biggest movers, Glaxo rose 50p to 920p helped by renewed support from across the Atlantic where the group's anti-ulcer drug Zantac, has scooped 7 per cent of the market in its first week of sales. This is good news for the group which is looking to Zantac to boost profits. The drug's performance has been behind the sharp rise in the shares over the past 18 months.

Elsewhere, Allied-Lyons rose 4p to 148p, BTR 4p to 531p, Blue Circle 8p to 443p, GEC 3p to 222p, Hawker Siddeley 4p to 312p, Thorn EMI went up 5p to 609p, Plessey 5p to 672p, Lucas Industries 2p to 150p and GKN 8p to 170p. American support was also good for another 3p on BOC Group at 241p, while Boots added 4p to 336p. Boots is due to meet the Federal Drug Administration in America next month for permission to sell its anti-rheumatic drug, Ibuprofen, over the counter there.

ICI was another firm market, climbing 10p to 540p ahead of second quar-

ter figures later today. The market is looking for around £130m making a total of £260m for the first six months.

Gilts encountered renewed profit-taking after the better than expected trade figures with falls of up to 75p reported in brisk trade. On the foreign exchanges, the pound added 0.4 cents to \$1.5290.

GKN's bid for Associated Engineering drew renewed support for motor components. Tecalemit added 3.5p to 26p, and Smiths Industries 7p to 380p. AE ended the day 19p higher at 55p, way above the GKN terms, on hopes of a counter bid.

Associated British Ports has boosted its chances of having Southampton made into a freeport. The latest cargo figures show a leap of 43 per cent to 2.46m tonnes in non-oil cargoes and are the first indicators of Southampton's performance since Associated British Ports went public this year. Southampton is the biggest port owned by ABP. Big increases in container, grain and a variety of other commodities were also reported.

Broadstone Investment Trust has reported interim pre-tax profits up from £784,000 to £995,000. The board has approved proposals for the unitization of the company in Schroder

American Fund and Schroder General Fund in connection with Schroder Unit Trust Managers. But the proposals are subject to approval by shareholders.

Beecham Group rose 6p to 351p on a statement by Sir Graham Wilkins, the chairman, at the annual meeting which attempted to scotch stock market suggestions that the company is becoming more of a consumer products than a pharmaceuticals group. It was this type of suggestion that nearly turned Beecham's recent £203m rights issue into a disaster. Sir Graham said: "I want to refute this latest misconception because it would be irresponsible to allow doubts about the likely future course of the group to arise."

Sir Graham also surprised observers by announcing the retirement from the board at the end of this year of Mr Frank Doyle who was responsible for taking Beecham into the penicillin field in the late Fifties. Taken together with the departure of Mr William Petley, head of Beecham Pharmaceuticals, it appears to represent the end of an era.

After the hectic activity in the banking sector over the past two days, prices held steady yesterday as dealers kept a wary eye on the movement of American interest rates. Any substantial

move in New York would place heavy pressure on the main London banks to follow suit which would be good for shares.

The increased profit figures from National Westminster unchanged at 647p and the Midland, up 15p to 427p despite the £154m rights issue, kept the rest of the sector steady at higher levels. Lloyds reports Friday and attitudes to its figures have completely turned around. Lloyds has the largest exposure to overseas business, generally thought of as the main problem areas for bad debts. But it has been precisely this area of trading which has helped the clearers balance domestic problems, so a quick re-think is being performed by analysts.

The shares jumped 8p on Tuesday to 557p and held steady at that level yesterday. Barclays should be reporting next week and as the largest British operator looks vulnerable to a large increase in bad and doubtful debt provisions. After Midland and National Westminster easily beat the best of analysts' forecasts few were prepared to risk a guess so close to the figures. Barclays shares were also steady at 489p after climbing 16p on Tuesday.

Grindlays and Bank of Scotland showed the only downward movement of the day, 8p and 3p respectively.

DOLLAR STOCKS

Alcoa	104
Amstar	104
Boeing	104
Chrysler	104
Eastman	104
Exxon	104
General	104
IBM	104
Johnson	104
Kodak	104
McDonald	104
Merck	104
Minerals	104
Rockwell	104
Schlumberger	104
Spacelabs	104
Texas	104
Union	104
Wendover	104

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

Bank of America	104
Bank of England	104
Bank of France	104
Bank of Germany	104
Bank of Italy	104
Bank of Japan	104
Bank of Spain	104
Bank of Sweden	104
Bank of Switzerland	104
Bank of the Netherlands	104
Bank of Belgium	104
Bank of Greece	104
Bank of Portugal	104
Bank of Russia	104
Bank of Turkey	104
Bank of Argentina	104
Bank of Brazil	104
Bank of Chile	104
Bank of Colombia	104
Bank of Ecuador	104
Bank of Venezuela	104

C - E

Chrysler	104
Eastman	104
Exxon	104
General	104
IBM	104
Johnson	104
Kodak	104
McDonald	104
Merck	104
Minerals	104
Rockwell	104
Schlumberger	104
Spacelabs	104
Texas	104
Union	104
Wendover	104

DREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

Admiral	104
Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A - B

Admiral	104
Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

F - H

Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

I - N

Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

O - S

Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

T - Z

Tottenham	104
Watson	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104
Wendover	104

FINANCIAL TRUST

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

INSURANCE

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

INVESTMENT TRUST

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

MINES

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

OIL

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

PROPERTY

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

RUBBER

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

TEA

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

MISCELLANEOUS

Albion	104
Anchor	104
Beck's	104
Brewery	104
Carlsberg	104
Chouffe	104
Crown	104
Guinness	104
Harbin	104
Heineken	104
Industrie	104
Kaiser	104
Leffe	104
Miller	104
Orville	104
Pilsener	104
Stout	104
Tottenham	104
Watson	104

You can make the first move at the age of 15, or you can wait until you're 29.

You can join the Army for 4 months, or you can make it your career.

Within these limits, there are a number of possibilities that might appeal to you.

While you're at school.

There are two ways of joining.

Firstly, you can apply for a 2-year Army Scholarship which will enable you to study for your 'A' levels or their equivalent.

We consider this a preparation for Sandhurst.

After an interview, and if we think you have what it takes to be an Army Officer, we'll assist with your tuition fees with a grant of up to £660 a year plus a maintenance grant of up to £750 p.a. based on parental income.

When you apply for a Scholarship, in January or July, you must be between 15 years 5 months and 16 years 5 months.

As an alternative to staying on at school, you can apply for a place at Welbeck, the Army's own sixth-form college, which provides an education aimed at a commission in one of the Army's technical corps.

To qualify, you must be well up to GCE or SCE 'O' level standard in English Language, Maths, Physics and at least two other subjects, preferably including Chemistry.

At the time of joining in January or September, you must be between 16 years and 17 years 6 months.

Success at Welbeck and satisfactory 'A' level passes will earn you a place at Sandhurst.

From there, you'll have a good chance of going on to read for a degree.

When you leave school.

Three options are open to you.

If you already have or expect to get five 'O'

Levels, including English Language, you can apply immediately for a Short Service Commission of 3 years which can be extended later on by a further 1-5 years.

With additional qualifications you could plump for a full career, Regular Commission.

Either way, you'll start your training at Sandhurst learning how to be an Officer.

After Sandhurst, your salary as a Second Lieutenant will be £16,482.

While you study we'll pay you £15,333 over three years in return for a minimum of 5 years service as a Regular Commissioned Officer after graduation. A Bursary is similar to a Cadetship except that you commit yourself to only 3 years as an Officer and receive £900 a year to supplement any LEA grant you may be awarded while you study.

When you graduate.

You can choose a Short Service Commission of 3 years or a full career, Regular Commission.

Although a degree is not a short cut to the top in the Army (qualities of leadership, courage and maturity are as important as academic qualifications) you will get ante-dated seniority.

In other words, having completed your Sandhurst course, you'll join as a Lieutenant instead of a Second Lieutenant.

To start with, this means you'll pick up £8,314.

Write to Major Floyd.

What we haven't covered is the job itself, your choice of regiments, the opportunities for promotion.

Then there's the Regular Commissions Board, a 3-day selection process for Officer training.

It's all covered in a brochure we've written about being an Army Officer.

Tell us your date of birth and educational qualifications and we'll send you a copy.

Address your letter to Major John Floyd, Dept. B65, Army Officer Entry, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London W1X 6AA.

Length of service is 4 to 18 months without obligation to rejoin the Army when you've graduated.

If you're going to university.

There are two schemes to consider.

If you expect to graduate before you are 25, you can apply for an Undergraduate Cadetship at any time up to your final year at university.

Another scheme which appeals to school-leavers is what we call a Short Service Limited Commission.

You could take advantage of it if you have a guaranteed place at a university, polytechnic or college of technology but time to spare before going up.

Length of service is 4 to 18 months without obligation to rejoin the Army when you've graduated.

If you're going to university.

There are two schemes to consider.

If you expect to graduate before you are 25, you can apply for an Undergraduate Cadetship at any time up to your final year at university.

While you study we'll pay you £15,333 over three years in return for a minimum of 5 years service as a Regular Commissioned Officer after graduation. A Bursary is similar to a Cadetship except that you commit yourself to only 3 years as an Officer and receive £900 a year to supplement any LEA grant you may be awarded while you study.

When you graduate.

You can choose a Short Service Commission of 3 years or a full career, Regular Commission.

Background to the news: the age of mass share ownership is still a long way off

Stock Exchange takes a timid step into future

First sight, the bones of the new Stock Exchange and the Government more concerned to accommodate the changes of the past than those of the future. The Exchange will answer the demands of its biggest existing customers. But it appears its restrictive practices that have developed over the years, let alone the fact of mass share ownership, will remain intact, or at the very least, in the hands of the few.

There have been two significant changes in the stock market. The first is the decline of the private and the rise of the public. The second is the decline of the market for shares and the rise of the market for bonds.

As led to the Exchange's commission to produce a new set of rules for the market, for instance, the gross revenue of the market was about £500m. It required the market to be able to handle more and more shares, and to be able to handle more and more bonds.

Second big change was the development of 24-hour financial markets in debt and even equity which led to the rise of huge international services groups such as Lynch and Nomura. This trend has been reinforced by the abolition of exchange controls.

Use London's fixed commissions and dealer-brokerage has kept the average small British firm from being able to raise money in the world market. London's financial and moves allowing it to own 30 per cent of firms, hitherto as partners, rise of London banks in the world market, which is led by banks acting as

THE FIXED COMMISSIONS THAT WILL GO	
Stocks and shares	
Price band (£)	Rate %
first 7,000	1.05
next 8,000	0.55
next 115,000	0.5
next 170,000	0.4
next 600,000	0.3
next 1,100,000	0.2
on the excess	0.125
The minimum commission on bargains of £300 or more consideration is £7 for a sold bargain and £10 for a purchase bargain. Bargains with a consideration less than £300 may be charged at discretion.	
Long-term gilt-edged stocks	
Price band (£)	Rate %
first 2,500	0.9
next 15,500	0.25
next 982,000	0.125
next 3,000,000	0.1
next 6,000,000	0.05
on the excess	0.03
Debentures	
Price band (£)	Rate %
first 5,000	0.9
next 5,000	0.45
next 40,000	0.35
next 80,000	0.325
next 770,000	0.25
next 1,100,000	0.175
on the excess	0.125

The concessions made by the Stock Exchange Council will surely accelerate trends that have cut the number of stock exchange firms by 20 per cent in five years. But how fast, and how far?

The big institutions are disappointed that the commission structure they hate so much will only be phased out over three years, far longer than it took in New York.

But the effect will be to favour the top 10 brokers and larger specialists, leave room for small private client brokers that have adapted themselves into portfolio managers and to squeeze further medium-sized firms, which still make up a hefty proportion of the remaining 200 or so.

It is harder to assess the impact of the apparently modest moves to convert sleeping outside partners into genuine participants with limited boardroom rights, an offshoot of the planned move to allow brokers limited liability.

Will it be enough to bring merchant banks, clearing banks, money brokers or the likes of Merrill Lynch into the fold? This would allow the full development of London-based financial services groups but threaten the eventual erosion of the treasured single capacity dealing system.

The process seems painfully slow in a world which, outside Throgmorton Street, is moving

remarkably fast. The Stock Exchange can meet competition as the success of its Unlisted Securities Market demonstrates. But there seems little in prospect to dislodge big American brokers from developing their own over-the-counter market in venture capital stocks, where they can exploit the economies of being both broker and market-maker.

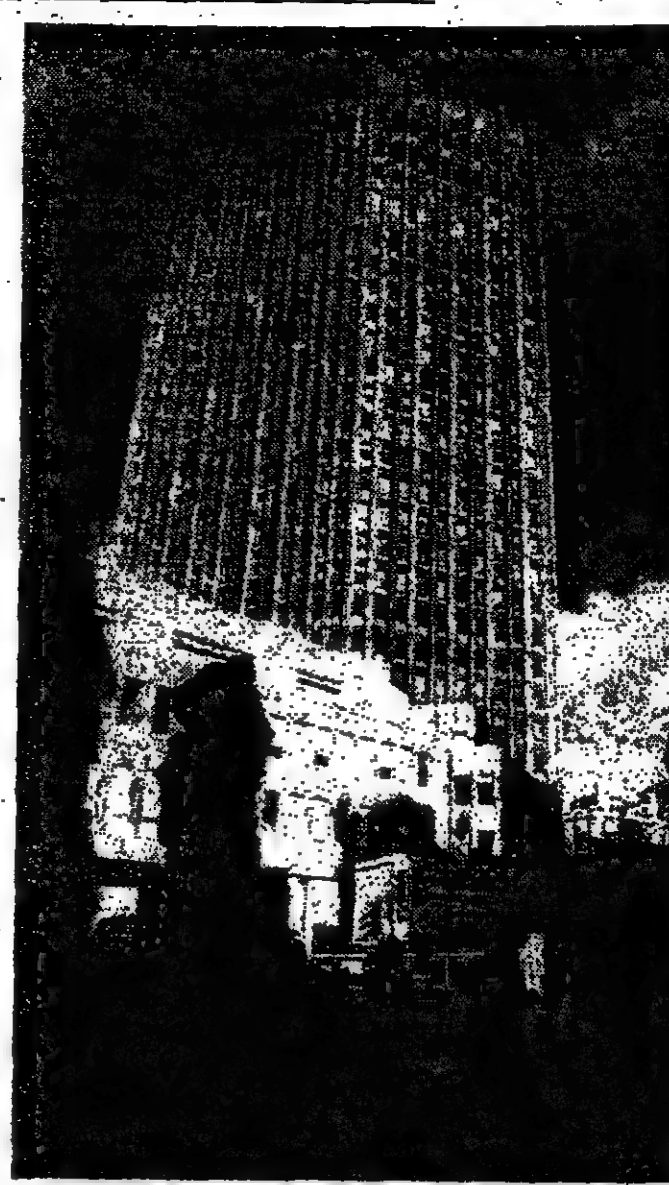
Considering previous exercises, notably the Ariel, deal-making computer system, the Exchange's effective monopoly in its chief businesses, government stock and big company shares could remain untroubled.

But bigger opportunities may be lost. It is hard to see such minor concessions greatly encouraging the growth of financial supermarkets for the individual, a gleam in the eye of clearing banks and dynamic thinkers such as Mr Mark Weinberg of Hambro Life.

And without more far-reaching reforms, there seems no prospect of the stock market developing like the worldwide electronic money markets.

Mass individual share and bond ownership, to be economic, would require the capacity, via Pressat, the local bank, Post Office or cable channel, to call up prices with one button, check credit-ratings with another and deal with a third.

Graham Searjeant



Dinosaur of a British institution? The Stock Exchange towers over the City

Is rule book deal a further nail in the OFT coffin?

At the end of the first decade of its existence, the Office of Fair Trading is not in a happy state. The bruising of Sir Gordon Borrie, the director general, by the Stock Exchange affair is only part of the story.

Not only have Sir Gordon and his OFT team been faced with some capricious ministerial decisions over mergers but many recommendations affecting consumers have been ignored by the Government.

But there have also been criticisms over OFT delays in dealing with credit licence applications and from local authorities about the OFT's slowness in vetting assurances from transacting retailers.

Sir Gordon and his team have had a far from impressive record in the three years of the Competition Act in seeking out anti-competitive behaviour among companies. Last year two OFT investigations were launched and three others were completed.

It all adds up to two questions. Does the Government with its non-interventionist stance have little use any more for Sir Gordon and the OFT? Should the thrust of the OFT be reassessed?

This month the Government seemed to be handing back some credibility to Sir Gordon after the earlier run of confusing merger decisions. Mr Alex Fletcher, Minister for Corporate and Consumer Affairs, had given an assurance that the new team at the Department of Trade and Industry would be listening more carefully than in the past to the advice of Sir Gordon as well as the recommendations of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Mr Fletcher remarked a few days later that the best protection the consumer can have is free and fair competition, and added that the existing system for operating competition policy was serving well.

But last week, without consulting Sir Gordon in any depth, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, intervened in Sir Gordon's taking the Stock Exchange and its rule book to the Restrictive Practices Court.

It was partly unfortunate timing. It is not an unreasonable argument that a court hearing is not the best way of sorting out such a problem



Borrie: licking his wounds

although the Association of British Travel Agents has already been through the hoop. In that case, ABTA lost some of its protective practices but the crucial one - a reciprocal exclusive dealing arrangement between package tour holiday operators and retail agents - remained.

Mr Parkinson's intervention is being seen as a slapdown for Sir Gordon. It will be interesting to see whether, as an indication of the Government's attitude to the OFT, he is picked up off the floor again.

Sir Gordon in his annual report called for legislative action to ensure that all used-car dealers placed on wind-downs a full pre-sales information report, an idea backed by trade organizations, which have been unable to enforce the practice by a voluntary code.

Sir Gordon's report and recommendations on the used-car market, produced more than two years ago, have been largely ignored by Government. The same has happened to recommendations on home improvements.

Sir Gordon has, however, put together a score of more voluntary codes of conduct with various suppliers and service industries. But there are points where rightly he has called for back-up from the Government.

If the Government sets a continuing role for Sir Gordon and the OFT, parts of the operation demand reassessment.

But it might be a logical move to give Sir Gordon an additional responsibility, bringing under his wing the proposed watchdog for telecommunications.

Derek Harris

AMERICA'S CUP

Victory '83 moves up to second after beating France 3

Newport, Rhode Island, (Reuter) - Victory '83 moved into second place in the trials to choose an America's Cup challenger after a convincing win over France 3. Victory '83 won by 2 min 42 sec and replaced Canada 1 in second place in the overall points standings. The Canadian boat dropped into third position as a result of its defeat by Australia's Challenge 12, by 1 min 58 sec.

Still out in front at this stage of the trials, is Australia 11, the leading Australian challenger, which registered its eighth straight victory in the current series and 29th win against only three losses since the challengers' trials started in June.

Australia 11 has been winning so comfortably that the crew feel they need harder racing to realize the boat's potential. They did not get that kind of competition against advance, the third Australian boat taking part, and they won by 4 min 23 sec over the 24.3-mile course in Rhode Island Sound.

Australia 11 led by 1 min and 46 sec at the end of the first four and a half-mile upwind leg and stretched the advantage on each succeeding leg of the course.

John Savage, skipper of Challenge

12, said after his boat's victory over Canada 3 that his crew had "sorted out" problems with a new mast that needed tuning and a new mainsail which had to be recut. He said Challenge 12 had now been going very well for the past few days.

Challenge 12 led the Canadian boat by only 33 seconds after the first 10 miles, but, after beating off a strong challenge by the Canadians, it stretched its lead to well over a minute on the fourth leg and went further ahead in the closing stages of the race.

In the separate trials to decide which boat defends the America's Cup for the United States - in September, Dennis Conner's Liberty - the favourite - won two more races against Courageous, by margins of 40 seconds and 2 min 30 sec. Conner has now won his last five races in the trials, but his rivals are not yet ready to concede defeat.

John Kollus, skipper of Courageous, said he did not think any of the three American yachts taking part in the trials had a decisive edge in speed at this stage.

OVERALL STANDINGS: Australia 11, 12.88 points; Victory '83, 8.44; Canada 1, 7.72; Challenge 12, 6.88; France 3, 6.44; Australia 12, 6.00; France 2, 5.56; Australia 13, 5.12.

Spying charges dropped, page 21.

CYCLING

Hinault's career depends on surgery

Paris, (Reuter) - Bernard Hinault, the French cycling champion, forced to pull out of his comeback race on Tuesday, said yesterday that he would need to have immediate surgery on his knee if his career was to continue.

Winner of the Tour de France four times, Hinault, who missed this year's event because of tendon damage to his right knee, broke down after 50 kilometres of a one-day criterium race in Calais, Brittany, yesterday.

He said: "It is no good, I can not continue with my knee like this. I will have to have surgery within the next few days to repair it. If I am like this I will not be able to take part in the world cycling championships. If I do not have the operation I may have to give up racing."



Hinault: a worried man

FOOTBALL

Hodde agrees to stay at Tottenham Hotspur

Glen Hodde has agreed to stay with Tottenham Hotspur for another year. The Tottenham manager, Keith Burkinshaw, yesterday announced the conclusion of close-season negotiations with his England midfielder player.

Burkinshaw said: "Glen will be here for another year. It is going to be an important season for us and he has been a part of the team for five or six years. It is important to have Glen here to increase the strength of the squad."

Tottenham hope to complete their team plans this week by signing the Irish international full back Chris Hughton and persuading Steve Perryman to sign for a further two years. They have offered Hughton a four-year contract but he does not want to be tied beyond two years.

Perryman was at the centre of an "illegal approach" row. The situation has upset Keith Burkinshaw, who has so far failed in repeated efforts to retain his experienced all-rounder.

"We have offered him a very good three-year contract or are willing to offer him more on the remaining year of his current contract," Burkinshaw said. "No player could be dissatisfied with the terms, but we are having problems because a few other clubs are offering him money behind the scenes. That's got to be an illegal approach."

Jimmy Rimmer, the 33-year-old Aston Villa goalkeeper, signed for Swansea City yesterday for an undisclosed fee. Rimmer spent his last months on loan to Swansea while he was with Manchester United in 1973-74 and then went to Arsenal for £50,000. He later won an England cap and moved to Aston Villa.

Aston Villa are to undertake a television advertising campaign in September when they will promote the club in 10 half-minute advertisements on Central Television.

They will be running two commercials - one featuring Gary Shaw in an attempt to encourage spectators and the other involving the chairman, Doug Ellis, who will be aiming to attract business sponsorship.

The commercial manager, Tony Stephens, said yesterday: "We understand there is a potential audience of nine million and we hope that the stimulus of the advertising will ensure we receive value for money."

Norwich City's first home match of the season, against the league champions Liverpool, has been changed from Monday, August 29 to Wednesday, August 31 (kick-off 7.30). Norwich applied for a change because of counter attractions in the city on Bank Holiday Monday.



Hodde: signed new contract

TENNIS

Lloyd causes an upset

John Lloyd, of Britain, ranked 324th in the world, caused an upset in the first round of the grand prix tournament in New Jersey yesterday, when he put out Fritz Buehning, the sixth seed, 6-4, 6-3.

Lloyd, who with partner Wendy Turnbull won the Wimbledon mixed doubles title earlier this year, kept the hard-hitting Buehning off balance for most of the match with some sharp passing shots. However, he also needed determination, especially in the second set, when he came back in the second set from 1-3 down by fighting off three break points in the ninth game, then taking five consecutive points to set up the win.

"I was positively delighted with the result," said Lloyd afterwards. "I haven't won a grand prix match since early January and it was pleasing to win against a highly ranked player at a club where I am always so well received."

Lloyd's win was not the only upset of the tournament. Mike Westphal, a teenager from West Germany beat Brian Gottfried, the

top seed, in straight sets, 6-3, 7-6, while Marcos Hoyer, the fourth seed from Brazil, was defeated by Eric Jiskersky of the US, 6-4, 6-2. Shlomo Glickstein, seeded two, of Israel also fell knocked out by Tom Cain of the US, 7-6, 5-6, 6-4.

Westphal, ranked 110th in the world, was the number one of the West German Davis Cup team, returned consistently well during his 98-minute duel with Gottfried and kept the pressure on for most of the match.

"I was my best victory ever," said Westphal, aged 18, who is ranked 110th in the world.

Westphal failed to cash in on two match points in the 12th game of the second set, but won it in the tie-breaker with a deep backhand approach shot which forced a forehand error from Gottfried.

First round results: Lloyd (GB) vs Buehning (USA) 6-4, 6-3; E. Jiskersky (USA) vs M. Hoyer (BRA) 6-4, 6-2; M. Glickstein (ISR) vs T. Cain (USA) 7-6, 5-6, 6-4; M. Westphal (FRG) vs B. Gottfried (USA) 6-3, 7-6, 5-6, 6-4; L. Lloyd (GB) vs S. Hoyer (BRA) 6-4, 6-3.

KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING

ANNOUNCEMENT Sample Housing Survey of the Kingdom Phase I

Ministry of Public Works and Housing intends to carry out a Housing Sample Survey in the whole of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The sample of dwellings to be included in a field survey will be defined through analysis of all data and aerial photography interpretation.

The announcement concerns only the first phase of the Housing Survey during which two tasks will be performed concurrently:

1. first task consists of the establishment of an inventory of all residential areas in the Kingdom to the 1/250,000 scale using computer analysis of Landsat data.

2. second task consists of the sample survey of housing in the six main cities of the Kingdom. The sample of dwellings to be included in a field survey will be defined through analysis of all data and aerial photography interpretation.

The survey will be carried out by the consultant who will also be responsible for data processing, responses, joint ventures or other entities who have had demonstrable experience in successfully planning and carrying out similar work and have the expertise and capacity to undertake either one or both of the tasks above and who wish to bid for either one or both contracts are invited to submit their proposals to the Deputy Ministry of Housing, Ministry of Public Works and Housing before August 13.

Selection terms to prequalification and a more detailed description of the work required can be obtained from the Consulate of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in London or from the Office of the Deputy Minister of Housing, Ministry of Public Works and Housing in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from August 01 until August 03 inclusive.

NOTICE Coca-Cola International Finance N.V. 9% Guaranteed Notes Due August 1, 1992

Pursuant to the Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement dated as of February 1, 1983 among Coca-Cola International Finance N.V., a Netherlands Antilles corporation (the "Issuer"), The Coca-Cola Company, a Delaware corporation, a Guarantor, and Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, as Fiscal Agent (the "Agreement"), under which the above-referenced Notes (the "Notes") were issued, notice is hereby given that:

(a) In accordance with the terms of the Agreement, payment of the Final Installment (being 70% of the face price of the Notes) is due and payable no later than 2:00 p.m. London Time on August 1, 1983 in U.S. Dollars in immediately available funds;

(b) No payment of the Final Installment made after August 1, 1983 due date will be accepted unless accompanied by a further payment representing interest accrued on the amount of such payment at a rate of 14 1/2% per annum from August 1, 1983 to the date on which such payment is received;

(c) On August 16, 1983, the obligation of the Issuer to accept payments of the Final Installment shall cease; and

(d) ON AND AFTER AUGUST 16, 1983, IF THE FINAL INSTALLMENT SHALL NOT HAVE BEEN PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT IN RESPECT OF ANY NOTE, THE ISSUER MAY RETAIN THE FIRST INSTALLMENT (BEING 30% OF THE FACE PRICE OF THE NOTES) PREVIOUSLY PAID IN RESPECT OF SUCH NOTE AND WILL HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO REPAY SUCH FIRST INSTALLMENT OR TO PAY INTEREST THEREON FOR ANY PERIOD PRIOR TO, INCLUDING, OR SUBSEQUENT TO AUGUST 1, 1983.

Arrangements should be made with Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, Brussels Office, as Operator of the Euro-clear System, or CFEDEL S.A. in order to assure timely payment of the Final Installment.

By: COCA-COLA INTERNATIONAL FINANCE N.V.

Dated: July 28, 1983

Little Wolf has the speed in Goodwood Cup pack

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

After their success with Satinette at Goodwood on Tuesday, Lord Forth, Dick Horn and Willie Carson are poised to strike an even richer vein by winning the Goodwood Cup today with Little Wolf, who won the Ascot Gold Cup earlier this season. Today's feature race has attracted not only the winner of the Gold Cup but also the winners of Royal Ascot's other important races for stayers, the Queen's prize (Santella Man) and the Queen Alexandra Stakes (Sandale).

If he is the form of six weeks ago, Little Wolf should be paid to his rivals with the sort of decisive authority that proved too much for Khaipour Indian Prince and Ore at Royal Ascot. Karadar, who ran Santella Man so close in the Queen's Vase, now has a 3lb pull in the weights.

Mountain Lodge, last year's Cesarewitch winner, has also been declared to run but she will be pulled out, just as she was at Ascot, unless there is an appreciable amount of rain in time to ease the going.

By the time he strides out to partner Little Wolf, Carson should have already won the Darnley Handicap Stakes for Horn on Band, who carried 9st 7lb when he won a similar race at Sandown Park eight days ago. The way Band stretched out up the hill that evening suggested that he is improving fast. He ought to be capable of struggling aside a 4lb penalty, and of beating the recent Newbury winner, General Concorde, on these terms. Band Boy (4.40) could be a third winner for Carson if he runs as well as he did at York and Salisbury earlier this month. On his Salisbury form he has the measure of Noroy.

With 15 sprinter standing their ground overnight the King George Stakes has blossomed in a way that it seldom has. With Brondesbury and Soba in the field we are assured of an exciting spectacle, because this sprint will be run at a blistering gallop. Brondesbury is so fast that his connections are casting their eyes across the Atlantic and canvassing a possible match with a leading American quarter horse.

Last season Brondesbury won six of his seven races, all over the minimum distance of five furlongs. But when he reappeared this season at Sandown in May he ran much too freely for his own good. Band Boy with the result that he was collared soon after halfway. Among those who eventually finished in front of him were Chellington Park, Sweet Monday, Sylvan Barbarosa and Crime of Passion, who are among his opponents again.

If this season's form means anything last year's Stewards Cup heroine, Soba, is surely the one Brondesbury and the others have to fear. Soba has not won this season, admittedly, but after finishing second in the King's Stand Stakes at Royal Ascot and the July Cup at Newmarket she is knocking at the door. Of the others, Time's Time looks a sporting bet to finish in the



Little Wolf: can reproduce Ascot Gold Cup form

frame. Remember it was he who gave that good Billy, Fawcote, weight and a narrow beating at Sandown last July. This year Time's Time has run only once, but that was a good one at Royal Ascot in the Cork and Orrery Stakes which he nearly won. Now he will be meeting Sylvan Barbarosa, his conqueror that day on 5lb better terms.

If Trojan Fen wins the Lanson Champagne Stakes, he will be following in his late and much-lamented sire, Troy's footsteps. When he won this race in 1978 Troy

looked a good horse to follow. Now I expect his son, who impressed me so much he was last race at Newbury easily, to retain his unbeaten record at the expense of Trojan Fen. He struggled to win his last race at Newmarket after doing precisely the same at Salisbury before that. If one looks back to the Staff Ingham Stakes at Epsom in June there should be little between Hit the Heights and Alderford at these weights. Captain Singleton, who finished third in Superstive in the July Stakes, will help put Trojan Fen's ability into perspective.

Goodwood selections

2.0 Band, 2.30 Trojan Fen, 3.5 Little Wolf, 3.40 Soba, 4.10 Video King, 4.40 Band Boy.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.30 Trojan Fen, 3.5 Karadar, 3.40 Brondesbury, 4.10 Mummy's Pleasure, 4.40 That's My Son.

Doncaster selections

By Our Racing Staff
2.15 The Four Ays, 2.45 Afzal, 3.15 Helaplane, 3.45 Orchard Road, 4.15 Haverrill Lass, 4.45 Be My Princess.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Sherra Boy, 2.45 Afzal, 3.15 Valerio, 3.45 Orchard Road, 4.15 Mount Keltie, 4.45 Vatican Way.

EQUESTRIANISM

Broome and Mr Ross are key to challenge

By Jenny MacArthur

Malcolm Pyrah and Towerlands Azeur are the backbone of the British team which today attempts to regain the European championship title at the All England jumping course, Hickstead. The championships, sponsored by Silk Cut, are divided into three parts. The two-part team event, in which the British are competing, takes place today and tomorrow, with the individual competitions continuing on to Sunday. Saturday is a rest day.

Britain's chances of regaining the title from the West Germans depend considerably on the performance of David Broome's Mr Ross, who replaced the injured Last Resort.

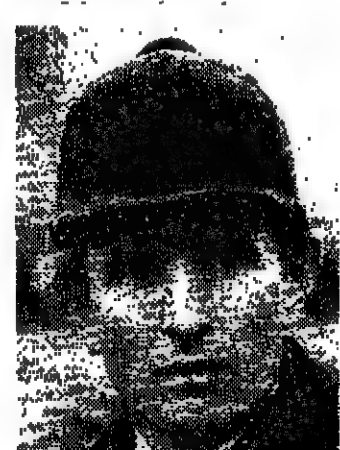
Mr Ross is not the most consistent of horses and has suffered from back trouble and a blood disorder over the last year. He is, however, fit and on good form now and jumped well in yesterday's warm-up class, as did John Whitaker on Ryan's Son and Harvey Smith on Sanyo Olympic Video, the two other members of the British team.

Mr Ross's inclusion in the team was justified yesterday by Ronnie Masarelli, chief of the selectors, who said the selectors were reluctant to be without Broome's experience and skill in a competition of this calibre.

The defending West German team includes the reigning individual champion, Paul Schockemöhle and Deister, who were on superb form at the White City last week when they won the King George V Gold Cup. One of his fellow team members is Gerd Wiltfang, the former world champion, who has also had problems with his horse. He left the White City event, in which the British were competing, after his horse was coughing. He is now riding the mare, Goldika, who has herself only recently recovered from an injury in the box.

The biggest threat to the West Germans is likely to come from the Swiss, who fielding the same team with which they won the Nations Cup at Aachen last month. It includes Heidi Robbiani, the only woman in the championship. She rides the consistent Irish-bred mare Jessica. It was considered a disadvantage to Mrs Robbiani that she has never jumped at Hickstead before, but her performance yesterday was faultless.

Frederic Cottier, on the experienced Flambeau, the horse on which he helped his country to victory in the Dublin world championships last year, heads the French team. It also includes Pierre Durand and Philippe Rozier, who were members of the winning Nations Cup team at Hickstead in May. Flambeau was laid off through injury for several months at the beginning of the year but is now fit again.



Pyrah: British backbone

There could be no more deserving winner of the individual gold medal than Pyrah and Towerlands Azeur, currently the World and European individual silver medalists. Pyrah had a good warm-up round yesterday but said afterwards that he was worried about the going and about the water jump. The course is being watered but the drying wind is making more water necessary. The water jump has been a bone of contention for some time at Hickstead. Several riders, including Pyrah, feel it is too deep and would be safer if made shallower towards the landing point.

SILK CUT STAKES (Optional competition): 1. Farnie (H. Simon) 2.45, 3.45, 4.45, 5.45, 6.45, 7.45, 8.45, 9.45, 10.45, 11.45, 12.45, 13.45, 14.45, 15.45, 16.45, 17.45, 18.45, 19.45, 20.45, 21.45, 22.45, 23.45, 24.45, 25.45, 26.45, 27.45, 28.45, 29.45, 30.45, 31.45, 32.45, 33.45, 34.45, 35.45, 36.45, 37.45, 38.45, 39.45, 40.45, 41.45, 42.45, 43.45, 44.45, 45.45, 46.45, 47.45, 48.45, 49.45, 50.45, 51.45, 52.45, 53.45, 54.45, 55.45, 56.45, 57.45, 58.45, 59.45, 60.45, 61.45, 62.45, 63.45, 64.45, 65.45, 66.45, 67.45, 68.45, 69.45, 70.45, 71.45, 72.45, 73.45, 74.45, 75.45, 76.45, 77.45, 78.45, 79.45, 80.45, 81.45, 82.45, 83.45, 84.45, 85.45, 86.45, 87.45, 88.45, 89.45, 90.45, 91.45, 92.45, 93.45, 94.45, 95.45, 96.45, 97.45, 98.45, 99.45, 100.45, 101.45, 102.45, 103.45, 104.45, 105.45, 106.45, 107.45, 108.45, 109.45, 110.45, 111.45, 112.45, 113.45, 114.45, 115.45, 116.45, 117.45, 118.45, 119.45, 120.45, 121.45, 122.45, 123.45, 124.45, 125.45, 126.45, 127.45, 128.45, 129.45, 130.45, 131.45, 132.45, 133.45, 134.45, 135.45, 136.45, 137.45, 138.45, 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1123.45, 1124.45, 1125.45, 1126.45, 1127.45, 1128.45, 1129.45, 1130.45, 1131.45, 1132.45, 1133.45, 1134.45, 1135.45, 1136.45, 1137.45, 1138.45, 1139.45, 1140.45, 1141.45, 1142.45, 1143.45, 1144.45, 1145.45, 1146.45, 1147.45, 1148.45, 1149.45, 1150.45, 1151.45, 1152.45, 1153.45, 1154.45, 1155.45, 1156.45, 1157.45, 1158.45, 1159.45, 1160.45, 1161.45, 1162.

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Salary for this appointment will be negotiable.

Please write in confidence giving a full resume of career to date, to the Managing Director:

B. N. Hunt, F.O.A.
Mannin International Limited
Lorne House, Castletown
Isle of Man

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HORIZONS

The Times Guide to career training

Prospects in the land of promise

While economists argue about whether or not the world is moving out of recession, in one area the outlook seems largely optimistic. Looking at the trade and manufacturing success of Hongkong and Singapore, and the wealth of resources in Malaysia or Brunei, businessmen are apt to ask "what recession?" especially as the rewards in these places are by no means confined to the process of making the rich richer. They are in one of the few parts of the world where unemployment is in low single figures, indeed Singapore is actually forecast to have a labour shortage by the end of the decade. Does this mean for the Far East opens up horizons for our own hard-pressed job seekers?

One of the reasons why the Far East is so successful, that its mainly Chinese workforce and business community possesses intelligence, discipline and a capacity for hard work matched only by the Japanese. To be frank, at general supervisory and management levels, expatriates have little to offer in the Far East - cannot be done as well, and at much lower salaries by the locals.

In more senior jobs, and in specialized professional areas like accountancy, engineering, banking and architecture, the prospect is rather more hopeful. Trading ties with the English-speaking world - especially Britain, Australia and the USA - are extremely close and the Chinese community do not yet have the vast volume of trade that has developed in the last 10-15 years.

Godfrey Golzen with advice for those seeking work in the Far East

A fair number of vacancies are advertised in the British national and specialist press especially in financial services. Sometimes these are with British or multinational companies who have bases in the region; or they may be with local firms recruiting through British agents. In the case of Hongkong, a wide variety of public as well as private sector posts are processed through British recruitment and selection channels. Another fairly prolific recruiter in a wide variety of professional fields is the Asian Development Bank, PO box 789, Manila.

The latter body often advertises vacancies in the *Far Eastern Economic Review* and anybody seriously interested in working there ought to get hold of a few back issues - available, for instance, at the City Business Library in London. Employers looking for senior people generally expect them to have some background knowledge of the general economic and political picture, so this is invaluable preparation for an interview.

Another useful preparatory move is to keep an eye on the overseas appointments pages of the press - not just for specific jobs but also to monitor the remuneration on offer.

Generally a job in the Far East ought to carry a salary about 50 per cent higher than its British equivalent, with fringe benefits such as free or subsidized accommodation (this is otherwise astronomically expensive, especially in Hongkong or Singapore), free education, medical care and home leave. The high salaries, incidentally, do not reflect a particularly high cost of living. Imported foods and other goods are expensive, but local products are very reasonable for instance in Kuala Lumpur you can buy a splendid pineapple for about 30p, whereas a fixed EEC apple will cost you about £1 in a supermarket.

The fact that prosperity has spread a fair way through the social system means that the Far East is rather more politically stable than some overseas posts - even in Malaysia, where there is a difficult balance of power between predominantly Malay administration and the large and aggressively entrepreneurial ethnic Chinese minority. The biggest question mark, perhaps, is over the long term future of Hongkong, where the British mandate runs out in 1997. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank building, now being put up by a firm of British architects at a cost of £600m, is a sign that the banks at least are confident about the future - and when they gamble, they usually like to bet on certainty.

Godfrey Golzen is the author of *Working Abroad*.

The importance of references

Anyone who has ever looked for a job will know the importance of obtaining good references. Some may have experienced the disappointment and frustration of finding out too late that one or more of their references has not responded in the way expected. There are legal remedies which applicants might have if they are given unjustifiably bad references and some ways of ensuring that they obtain acceptable references.

A prospective employer will usually ask the applicant himself to provide the names of referees. In such cases, provided the applicant has done his homework in advance, there should be no problem. A practice which is growing in popularity is for the prospective employer to ask the applicant to provide one referee of his own and to approach his previous or current employer for the other reference. An applicant who knows that a previous employer's reference is going to be bad, for example if there was a personality clash between them, can deal with those unfavourable aspects at the interview so that the impact of the reference will be nullified, or at least modified.

Those who are looking for a new job while in employment will usually have no difficulty in obtaining a good, or at least a satisfactory reference from their current employer. If the employer does not wish to lose the applicant's services, the reference will undoubtedly be a good one (unless, of

Erich Suter examines the problems of bad references and how to avoid them

course, a deliberately bad reference is given to ensure that the applicant will stay. If the current employer would be happy to see the applicant go he is, again, likely to provide a reasonable reference, since a bad reference will undoubtedly thwart the applicant's chance to move.

Where a current employer is trying to dispense with the services of an employee on the basis of a settlement, or where an unfair dismissal settlement is being sought with a former employer, an agreed reference may form a valuable part of the settlement. From the employee's point of view it must be borne in mind that a referee who gives a good reference which is untrue and which he does not believe, may be liable to the employer who employs the applicant on the basis of it if he thereby suffers loss or damage. If this reason, those seeking settlements or agreed references or any kind must not set their sights too high by trying to obtain a reference in glowing terms which would be untrue.

If a referee gives a bad reference the applicant will rarely know about it until his job application is turned down, since references are usually given and received in strict confidence. The applicant will only have a

legal remedy against a referee who gives an unjustifiably harsh reference in very limited circumstances.

The most probable type of action the applicant would seek is in writing, the action will be for libel; if in a temporary form, such as a telephone reference, for slander. The main difficulty with defamation actions is that if the terms of the reference are either true or an honest statement, made without malice, of the referee's opinion of the applicant, then it is unlikely that the action would succeed. It is a defence in a defamation case to show that the person giving the information has a legal or moral duty to provide that information and that it was an honest expression of his opinion. It has not yet been established whether this defence is available to employers when giving references, but it seems likely that it would be. It will, therefore, be in a case where the referee maliciously gives a bad reference (i.e. a knowingly false reference made with a view to injuring the employee) that a defamation suit is likely to succeed.

Moreover, legal aid is not available. It is therefore very important that applicants make use of the quality of their references, from the very beginning. The author is *Labour Law Adviser for the Institute of Personnel Management*.

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ROUND TABLE

GENERAL SECRETARY DESIGNATE

The National Association of Round Tables of Great Britain & Ireland wishes to appoint a General Secretary Designate to commence duties on 1st February, 1984 and to succeed the present General Secretary who retires during 1984.

The Association consists of young men of integrity and is based on fellowship, service to the community and the promotion of international understanding. The General Secretary assists in the conduct of the affairs and the progress of the Association and in particular is concerned with the work of the National Council and its Committees.

The successful candidate will have a record of administrative experience and demonstrable organisational ability and will be between 35 and 45 years of age. The appointment carries free life insurance and membership of a contributory pension scheme, with retirement at 60. The commencing salary will be in the region of £12,500 p.a.

Application forms and further details from the General Secretary, National Association of Round Tables of Great Britain & Ireland, 15 Park Road, London, NW1 6XN.

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General Appointments

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Director-General

DIRECTOR-GENERAL

The Association wishes to appoint a successor to the present incumbent who is due to retire in twelve months time. To ensure a smooth succession, it is the intention that the new appointment should be made within the next few months, with duties commencing in the first half of 1984.

The Director-General is the Association's chief executive officer and is answerable to the honorary officers and to the National Council for the efficient conduct of the Association's business. Application is invited for this responsible position from those having suitable experience. This should include thorough knowledge of the working of Westminster and Whitehall and of local government. Applicants should also have a good understanding of the structure of UK commerce and industry and of its interests and concerns with Government and other authority, local and central. Ability to communicate effectively both orally and through the written word and to present the Association's views through the media is essential, as is the capacity to organise the Association's staff resources to best advantage. Previous Chamber of Commerce experience although not essential would be a distinct asset.

Remuneration will be negotiable according to age (which should not be above 55), qualifications and experience. Applications - which will be treated in strict confidence - in writing please, together with cv to: Chairman, Association of British Chambers of Commerce, Sovereign House, 212a Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8EW.

Institute of Virology

Director

Applications are invited for the post of Director of the Institute of Virology following the recent retirement from the post of the previous Director, Dr T.W. Tinsley. The Institute is a constituent body of the Natural Environment Research Council.

The Institute forms the focal point for fundamental NERC research in virology, relating to environmental processes, including viral epidemiology and invertebrate pest control, and to biotechnology. Housed in a new custom-built laboratory in Oxford, the Institute comprises the most modern facilities in its field in Europe. There is a staff of over 50, of whom 40 are scientists, plus a regular number of research students. The Director is responsible to the NERC for the initiation and development of research, and for the control and management of the Institute and its expenditure, which is likely to approach £1,000,000 this year. The Director is expected to make a personal contribution to the research effort of the Institute and must be capable of initiating and leading new scientific advances. He or she must also create opportunities to win commissions and contracts for applied research to exploit the Institute's expertise and experience.

The post offers a challenging opportunity for a scientist with a distinguished record in research, combined with experience of management and administration.

The Director will, on appointment, be pre-elected to a Supernumerary Fellowship at St Cross College of the University of Oxford, a non-stipendiary position which nevertheless carries all rights of Common Table and membership of the Governing Body.

The post is currently graded at Senior Principal Scientific Officer with a salary in the range of £15,605 to £19,317 p.a. However, a higher salary might be considered for a very outstanding candidate according to relevant qualifications and experience. Conditions of service are similar to those of the Civil Service and include membership of the NERC Superannuation Scheme, which is analogous to that of the Civil Service. Some assistance towards the cost of house removal may be available.

Application forms and further information may be obtained from Mrs P.R. Childs, NERC, Establishments Division, Polar House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1BU. Telephone Swindon (0793) 40101, extension 323. Completed application forms, with full list of publications, should be returned to Mrs Childs by 31st August 1983.

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For further details please contact Mr J. E. Bergman, Deputy Unit Administrator Ext. 224. Application form and job description available from the Personnel Department, Napsbury Hospital, Nr. St. Albans, Herts. Bowmans-green 23333 Ext. 382.
Closing date: 12th August 1983.

Royal County of BERKSHIRE

DIRECTOR OF PROPERTY SERVICES

Salary £23,691-£25,320 (pay award pending)

The County Council has decided to merge the County Architect's and County Property Departments to form a new Department of Property Services. The new Chief Officer will be responsible for a wide range of property services including property management, the purchase and sale of land and buildings, building and grounds maintenance, architecture and associated engineering services. The capital building programme is currently about £10m per annum, the building maintenance programme over £5m and the value of the Council's property totals over £500m.

Applications are invited from candidates from all relevant disciplines with a suitable background in property, its design, construction, maintenance and management. The successful applicant will have a proven record in top management and will be capable of co-ordinating and motivating a large department of over 170 professional, technical and administrative staff. He/she will be a member of the Chief Officer's Group and expected to make a major contribution to the corporate management of the Authority.

HEAD OF MANPOWER SERVICES

Salary by arrangement according to experience but not less than £17,769-£18,993 (pay award pending)

The County Council is seeking an enthusiastic, well qualified and experienced person for the new post of Head of Manpower Services. The successful applicant will be responsible directly to the Chief Executive for the overall co-ordination of personnel policies in this large local authority employing just under 23,000 staff. He/she will head a small central personnel unit and will be expected to work closely with service departments in ensuring that best personnel practices operate throughout the Authority.

The successful applicant will join a dynamic team of officers directly responsible to the Chief Executive and will be expected to make a major contribution to the corporate management of the Authority, through the development of positive personnel policies and procedures.

Application forms and further particulars of both the above appointments obtainable from the Chief Executive, Shire Hall, Shinfield Park, Reading RG2 9BX. Closing date 18th August 1983.

Berkshire County Council is an equal opportunity employer and all applicants will be considered solely on the basis of suitability for the post irrespective of race, colour, sex, marital status or disability.

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**Assistant Secretary Personnel CNAA,
344/354 Grays Inn Road, London, WC1X 8BP.
Tel 01-278 4411.**

Closing date for receipt of applications: **8th August, 1983.**

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Edited by Peter Davalle

TONIGHT'S PROM

Paul Webster: European Connections (TV, 5,30)

6.30 Brain of Britain 1993 (V)
7.00 News: The Archers
7.40 Any Answers
7.45 Four Classic Comedies: 1. The School for Scandal, by R. B. Sheridan; Starring Sarah Badel and Nigel Stock as the Tootles; Gary Bond, Alec McGowan, Gita Swift and Jane Knowles, etc.

8.40 Southcoast - visits the Buxton Festival. Presented by Christopher Bigsby who invites expert comment on two of the pieces in the festival, *Witold a Greek and Gounod's La Colombe*, and on other attractions inspired by *Bocaccio's Decameron*, which provides the theme for this year's festival.

8.59 The World Tonight
10.00 A Book at Bedtime: *Ym the King of the Castle* by Susan Hill (R)
10.10 Read by Lynn Farleigh
11.15 The Financial World Tonight
11.25 Sports Partnership
12.10 News: Weather
12.15 Shipping Forecast. England
With *Wit* above except of 2.55-3.30. Weather: Travel 3.59-4.20
4.20 Listening Corner 5.59-5.25 PM (continued) 11.00 Study
11.40-9.15 Film: *Brooks*, 8.00 Coast
to Coast
11.50 Mental Infirmary at Home
11.51 Literary, Education and Society.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather
7.00 News
7.05 Morning Concert. Mozart
Overture: The Marriage of Figaro, Johann Strauss (O
babericht, Dvorak (Slovakia
Dances in B, Op.72, No.1),
Wagner, Haydn (Symphony No
56), Records.

8.00 News
8.05 Morning Concert (continued).
Cherubini, Mendelssohn (Violin
Concerto in E minor), Strauss
Symphony Poem VII
Bakerspeltz.

8.00 News
8.05 This Week's Composer: William
Byrd. Record and Reviews.
Parliaments and Pastimes, songs
1.10-1.17

REGIONAL TELE

TVS As London except 8.25-8.30 News, 10.00-10.15 *The Viking*, 11.45-12.00 *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea*, 1.25-1.30 *Sport Bild*, 1.40-1.50 *News*, 2.00 *World News*, 2.15-2.45 *Diff'rent*, 2.55-3.00 *Coast to Coast*, 6.45 *Crossroads*, 7.17-7.40 *Am Car on Laughing*, 10.30 *Ladies Man*, 11.40-9.15 *Film*, 11.50 *My Camera*, 12.25 *Company*, *Closedown*.

CHANNEL As London except 1.20-1.30 *Hogarty Hogarty*, 1.30-1.30 *News*, 1.35-1.40 *Crima Classics*, 5.15-5.45 *Crossroads*, 6.00 *Channel Report*, 6.30 *Chorus to Meet*, Kate Boyle, 6.40 *Gardeners for All*, 7.15 *PS the Paul Simon*, 7.30-7.45 *Paul Simon*, 10.30 *Look what we've Found*, 11.00 *My and My Camera*, 11.30 *Target Books*, 11.50 *the Paul Simon*, 12.00 *Mysteries*.

ANGLIA As London except 10.25 *Cartoon*, 10.50-11.00 *Tarzan*, 11.35-12.00 *PrimeTime Live*, 1.20-1.30 *News*, 3.30-4.00 *Mork and Mandy*, 5.15-5.45 *Bypasses*, 6.00 *About Anglia*, 6.30 *Arena*, 6.45 *Crossroads*, 7.17-7.40 *Am Car on Laughing*, 10.30 *Ladies Man*, 11.40-9.15 *Film*, 11.50 *My and My Camera*, 12.25 *Company*, *Closedown*.

SCOTTISH As London except 1.20-1.30 *News*, 1.35-1.40 *Crima Classics*, 5.15-5.45 *Crossroads*, 6.00 *Channel Report*, 6.30 *Chorus to Meet*, Kate Boyle, 6.40 *Gardeners for All*, 7.15 *PS the Paul Simon*, 7.30-7.45 *Paul Simon*, 10.30 *Look what we've Found*, 11.00 *My and My Camera*, 11.30 *Target Books*, 11.50 *the Paul Simon*, 12.00 *Mysteries*.

6:15 am Water Management.
6:35-6:55 Community.
7:00-7:15 am **10:15** **Phish** **and**
Participation. 11:15-12:00 **Modern**
Art Breton and Trotsky.

Radio 2

News on the hour every hour (except 8:00 am and 8:00 pm) **5:00** **Butterflies**
7:00 am, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30 am, 5:00 and 12:00 midweek (M-F/W). 6:00 am **Jerry** 7:00 **Ray** **My** **and** **the** **Johnny** **Winters** **While** **You** **Wait** **12:30** **Stars** **Hammond**
Including 2:00 **Sports** **Deck** 2:30 **Ed** **6:00** **David** **and** **the** **Johnny** **Winters** **While** **You** **Wait** 6:30 **Stars** **Hammond**
Including 6:45 **Sport** **and** **Cassidy** **and** **the** **Johnny** **Winters** **While** **You** **Wait** 7:00 **Ray** **My** **and** **the** **Johnny** **Winters** **While** **You** **Wait** 7:30 **Stars** **Hammond**
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ed my Camera. 11.30 Mysteries of
our Wallace" 12.30 am Entertainment

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University Challenge. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.45 Crossroads. 7.10-7.40 PS K's Paul Smith. 12.30 and 1.30 Comedy. 11.30

[illegible]

والأصل

Colombo rioting wrecks 20,000 Tamil businesses

From Michael Hamlyn, Colombo

Smoke from hundreds of shops, offices, warehouses and homes blew idly over Colombo yesterday. Any business, any house belonging to, or occupied by, a Tamil has been attacked by gangs of *gondas* (hooligans) and the resulting destruction looks like London after a heavy night's attention from the Luftwaffe.

The sharp smell of destruction fills the nostrils and the roads beneath the feet crunch with broken glass. Cars and lorries lie at ungainly angles across the footways.

In Pettah, the old commercial heart of the city, row after row of sari boutiques, electronic

6 The sharp smell of destruction fills the nostrils and the roads beneath the feet crunch with broken glass. Cars and lorries lie at ungainly angles. 9

dealers, rice sellers, car parts stores, lie shattered and scarred. The ashes and effluents of racial hatred spill far into the roadway.

Last night, to prevent a further recurrence of the three nights of mayhem, a curfew was enforced with rigorous discipline. In the town centre every street corner was manned with steel-helmeted troops.

Further out, enforcement of the curfew was more difficult and young curfew-breakers popped across the road and in and out of alleyways like quicksilver. Those who were caught were made to put their hands on their heads and spin round in circles for five or 10 minutes until they fell with dizziness and were allowed to stagger off.

Government officials yesterday estimated that 20,000 businesses and declared that there was a pattern of organization and planning in the rioting and looting. They also admitted that the disturbances had spread to the central hill town of Kandy, and to a smaller town closer to Colombo called Compole.

The violence got under way late on Sunday after news spread of the deaths of 13 soldiers in a terrorist attack in the north. Plans to bury to victims in a mass grave in the main cemetery of Colombo caused a crowd to gather.

The crowd became hostile. The first Tamil shops and

premises attacked were near the cemetery.

The following morning the terror reached a peak. Families left on their own while their menfolk were at work were invaded by hostile gangs demanding money and stealing.

People who had lived happily with their neighbours for years and whose only crime was that they spoke a different language and worshipped a Hindu god were suddenly dispossessed. Their homes and furnishings were burnt and tossed into the street.

The imposition of the curfew at 2 pm that day brought a little relief, but not much. The curfew was supposed to be in full effect all day on Tuesday but that did not prevent further homes and businesses suffering.

By yesterday it seemed that the crowd's fury had been slaked. The curfew was relaxed from 5 am but imposed at 4 pm. According to an announcement yesterday the curfew will be lifted between 5 am and 2 pm today and tomorrow but on Saturday and Sunday it will remain in force all day.

Tamil families have taken refuge in six refugee camps around the city, mainly in school buildings, where they are protected by armed guards.

Unofficial estimates put the number of dead in the three days of rioting at more than 100.

One of the principal reasons for Britain's delay in granting independence to its former

6 People who had lived happily with their neighbours for years and whose only crime was that they spoke a different language and worshipped a Hindu god were suddenly dispossessed. 9

colony was because of fears that the majority would tyrannize the minority Tamils.

But the majority Sinhala speakers feel that they are threatened by 40 million Tamil speakers in India. They feel it is their language and their civilization which is under potential attack.

Holidays hit The Association of British Travel Agents is advising its members to postpone package holiday flights to Sri Lanka.

Tourists return, page 6



Shopping spree: Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother during a visit to Sandringham Flower Show yesterday accompanied by the Duchess of Kent. The Queen Mother spent £20.45 at the show.

£670m cuts total revealed

Continued from page 1

announced record profits, is to repay £43m to the Exchequer this year instead of £24m, and the Central Electricity Generating Board and the area electricity boards for England and Wales must repay £418m instead of £406m.

Mr Rees said to a Conservative backbencher that there would be no justification for any price increases by nationalized industries.

Mr Shore accused the Government of indulging in one more exercise in inept and brutal surgery.

Among the cuts confirmed are: defence, £240m; health (England), £108m; the arts £3.5m, and among the smaller but most sensitive programmes cuts of £500,000 each in provision for the British Council and the BBC's external services.

Savings in expenditure on law and order and the protective services, including prisons, treatment of offenders and civil defence, total £10.8m. Expenditure by the Northern Ireland departments is reduced by £11.9m.

FT gives up hope of NGA negotiations

Continued from page 1

They are being asked to signify by the end of next week whether they will cooperate with the company in this plan. Meanwhile, plans to restart the FT's European operation will be suspended.

Mr George Jerrom, national officer of the NGA, who attended yesterday's disciplinary hearing at the TUC, reacted sharply to the company's move last night.

"If the company is intent on that course of action, with whatever agreement they receive, it will lead to a confrontation outside the area of the FT and every other newspaper proprietor should be aware of the repercussions of such action," he said.

This veiled threat of an industry-wide stoppage will probably have an effect on the responses of the unions the FT wants to bring into its republication plan. Members of other unions at Bracken House are understood to be reluctant to join the exercise at this stage.

The TUC General Council yesterday set in motion the disciplinary process which will end in the NGA's suspension or

expulsion if it refuses to accept a peace settlement.

By 25 votes to eight, the council agreed formally to "advise" the NGA to accept the mediator's award which has the personal support of Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC. But it seems certain that the union will refuse.

After appearing before the council, Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the NGA, said: "They have allowed themselves to be used as a battering ram by the FT management to bludgeon the NGA into surrendering. I can tell you the NGA is not going to surrender."

Print union leaders have been given a week to accept the "advice" of the TUC and if they continue their defiance they will be brought before the General Council again on August 4 to face suspension from the labour movement.

Mr Murray swung the vote yesterday by telling union leaders - "and which of you has not been in my office asking for help?" - that he would abdicate his personal peacemaking role in industrial disputes if they failed to support him in the present crisis.

Pay review penalizes strikers

Continued from page 1

David Williams, general secretary of COHSE, with 140,000 nurses as members, said: "The Government is to deny the right to take industrial action to more than half a million people."

Nupee, which has a membership of 90,000 nurses, added that it was "very surprised strings had been attached."

Only the Royal College of Nursing, representing 226,000 nurses, said that it welcomed the document wholeheartedly and the fact that it is to be implemented immediately.

In her written reply Mrs Thatcher said that Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, would be establishing the review body "without delay".

It would advise the Prime Minister annually on pay with effect from April 1984 and would concern nursing staff, midwives, health visitors, physiotherapists, radiographers, remedial gymnasts, occupational therapists, orthoptists, chiropodists, dieticians and related grades in the National Health Service.

Frank Johnson in the Commons

Helping hand for good relations

Mr Cecil Parkinson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, yesterday arranged an armistice for what his party has traditionally regarded as Britain's oldest ally: the Stock Exchange.

That power had been the subject of a case brought against it by the Director General of Fair Trading in the Restrictive Practices Court. Mr Parkinson's backbenchers regarded this as an act of aggression. The cause of the Stock Exchange arouses the same sort of passionate, sometimes romantic, loyalties on the Conservative benches as does, on the Labour benches, the cause of the Nicaraguan Government's death squads in El Salvador.

The Stock Exchange is one of those places that makes Tories just a little bit sentimental. Many of them have families still living there. These backbenchers just cannot bear the idea of anything awful befalling their loved ones. So there was deep gratitude on the Conservative benches when Mr Parkinson arrived to announce: "Ministers have for some time been concerned that the court proceedings under the Restrictive Trade Practices Act may not be the best way to pursue the matters raised by the Director General."

Amid moving scenes on the benches, Mr Parkinson went on: "While these proceedings are pending, it is difficult for the Stock Exchange to make changes to enable its members to compete for business worldwide. There is also a danger the legal proceedings within the framework of the Act may damage the effective operation of the Stock Exchange, which remains essential to the working of our economy. Accordingly, the Government would wish to see the matter settled out of court."

The chairman of the Stock Exchange had made various proposals, which Mr Parkinson listed, which, it would seem, were designed to meet the objections raised by the Director General of Fair Trading. The upshot of it all was that the Government would introduce legislation to exclude the Stock Exchange from the operation of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act.

Conservative approval of the Parkinson peace initiative was balanced by Labour hysteria. Mr Peter Archer, the Opposition spokesman, said it was "a deal between cronies in a smoke-filled room". That sort of thing Mr Parkinson could survive.

There was a great deal of it from the benches opposite him for half an hour. Mr Parkinson dealt with it with a rather impressive mastery of the formidably complex, and indeed formidably boring subject. He tended to point out that a large number of bodies and activities were excluded from the operation of various Acts, including unions, his own trade of accountancy, and that of Mr Archer, who is a barrister.

A figure who presented greater difficulty for Mr Parkinson was the member for Halesowen, Mr John Stokes, of the Extreme-Respectable wing of the party. He seemed rather worried about what Mr Parkinson was doing. He urged the minister to remember "that in the past the Tory Party has always preferred the landed interest to the moneyed interest of the Whigs".

In glossy Mr Parkinson and martial Mr Stokes, there was an irrevocable clash of styles. History, as Mr Parkinson modestly implied in his reply, is not his strong suit. In fact, his strong suit is always his suit. Yesterday he wore a fabulously cut medium-grey creation, as opposed to Mr Stokes' darker, traditionalist ensemble.

Then again, the only thing that Mr Parkinson is likely to know about the Whigs is that his more envious colleagues have presumably accused him of wearing one - so youthful and superbly-barbered is his growth.

On the whole, the new Tory members were not to be found on the Stokes wing of the party on this issue, since many of them manage to combine both the landed and moneyed interest. Not that this makes any easier the question of who exactly they are, even though the Parliament is over a month old. "Mr Er. Er," cried the Speaker yesterday when calling one of them to put a question. When no name issued from the Chair, the member said: "Yes." And he went on to put his question. At least we all assumed he was a member. But you never know with some of these Whigs who seem to be wandering in off the streets.

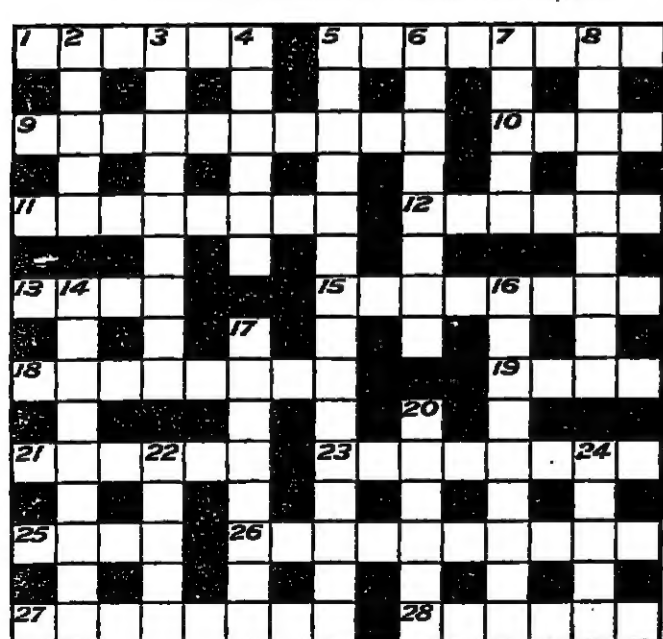
THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

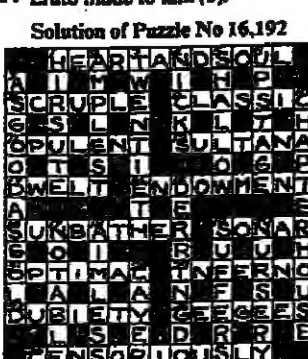
Royal engagements
The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh attend a reception to mark the 75th anniversary of the Guild of Freeman of the City of London, Guildhall, 6.30.
Princess Anne opens the cancer scanner at Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford, 11; visits Britvic Limited, Chelmsford, 2; opens the Essex Autistic Society's new centre at Peldon Old Rectory, Peldon, Essex, 3.30.
Princess Margaret, President of the Girl Guides Association, visits

the International Camp at Coed-y-brydlyn, South Glamorgan, 2.30.
Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester attends The Royal Tournament at Earls Court Stadium, London, 2.30.
New exhibitions
Humbly Grove print competition entries (until Aug 14); and National Art Collections Fund anniversary exhibitions: works acquired with the aid of the Fund (until Sept 11), both at Usher Gallery, London Road, Lincoln; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2.30 to 5.
Photographs by Stuart Roy, Riverside Theatre, New University of Ulster, Coleraine, Northern Ireland; Mon to Sat 10 to 7, closed Sun; (until Aug 20).
Exhibitions in progress
European and American Art, Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until Sept 25).
Great American Prints: Whistler to Warhol, Whitworth Art Gallery, Whitworth Park, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9, closed Sun; (until Sept 10).
Treasures from the collections of The Duke of Norfolk, Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield; Mon to Sat 10 to 6, Sun 2 to 6; (until Aug 7).
Impressionism and Expressionism: Paintings from collections in Saarbrücken, Germany, Leicester-shire Museum and Art Gallery, New Walk, Leicester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, Sun 2 to 5; (until Aug 21).
Spode-Copeland 1733-1983, City Museum, Stoke-on-Trent; Mon to Sat 10.30 to 5, Wed 10.30 to 8, closed Sun; (until Sept 3).
Grandmother's Wardrobe: fashions 1896-1983, Cliffe Castle, Spring gardens Lane, Knebworth; Sat to Sun 10 to 6, closed Mon; (until Sept 11).
Virgil in Britain: books and graphics, Somerset County Museum, Taunton Castle; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun; (until Sept 2).
Beatrix Potter exhibition (until Nov 6); and The Last of the Bedouin in Jordan (until Aug 7); both at Abbey Hall Art Gallery, Kendal, Cumbria; Mon to Fri 10.30 to 5.30, Sat and Sun 2 to 5.
Music
Organ recital by John Scott, Chester Cathedral, 1.10.
Organ recital by Christopher Seward, Jesus College Chapel, Cambridge, 1.10.
Concert by Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Cherry Hinton Hall, Cambridge, 7.30.
Organ recital by Roger Carter, St Mary's Centre, Aylesbury, 1.10.
Concert by Tallis Chamber Choir and English Chamber Orchestra, St Nicholas Church, King's Lynn, 8.15.
General
Watch the Birdie: events for children aged 8 and above, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 11.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,193



- ACROSS
- Put a thick coat on in bed - Aubrey's example (6).
 - Pearl may be refined (8).
 - The Underground Alice went by - from Warren Street? (6-4).
 - A character on the staff fixes the pitch (4).
 - Express surprise after this direction to book a place (8).
 - Green salad with yoghurt first for virgins (6).
 - Appeal - the accused's answer (4).
 - International body has things to sell unexpectedly (8).
 - Wherein eg outline accounts are kept (8).
 - Show an inclination to jargon (4).
 - Heargear for radical MP? (6).
 - Manual worker responsible for throughput (8).
 - This may be paid to male journalist (4).
 - One of many things to talk of - and it may get heated (7-3).
 - From start to finish the boy went wrong (8).
 - Blooming idle types in the field (6).
- DOWN
- Avoid a lady who admits, briefly, her advancing years (5).



New Books - Paperbacks

The Library Edition of interesting books published this week:
A Voice Through the Cloud, by Denton Welch (Penguin, £2.50).
Duty the Wilderness, by John A. Kesteven (Penguin, £2.50).
The Fates of Nations, a biological theory of history, by Paul Colman (Penguin, £3.50).
The Girl of the Sea of Cortez, by Peter Benchley, (Corgi, £1.95).
The Oxford Paperback Dictionary, new edition, compiled by Joyce M. Hawking (Oxford, £2.95).

The papers

The barrage of criticism descending on President Reagan's head over Central America, is undeserved, says the Daily Express. "If he allows Nicaragua to subvert El Salvador where will the rot stop? Let us just remember who are our friends and who are the declared foes of democracy."

National Day

Pera today celebrates the anniversary of the declaration of independence from Spain in 1821. Full independence was not, however, secured until December 1824, when troops commanded by the Venezuelan general Antonio José de Sucre defeated the Spanish forces at the battle of Ayacucho.

Anniversaries

Births: Gerard Manley Hopkins, 1844; Ernest Hemingway, 1899; Léonide Massine, dancer and choreographer, (twice style Aug 9), Moscow, 1896. Deaths: Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, executed on Tower Hill, 1540; Abraham Cowley, poet, Chesham, Surrey, 1667; Antonio Vivaldi, Venice, 1741; Johann Sebastian Bach, Leipzig, 1750; Sir Moses Montefiore, philanthropist, Ramsgate, 1885. Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, 1914.

The pound

	Bank	Bank
Australia \$	1.815	1.735
Austria Sch	28.20	27.45
Belgium Fr	37.75	37.75
Canada Cdn	1.35	1.35
Denmark Kr	14.95	14.75
Finland Mk	8.86	8.46
France Fr	12.42	11.87
Germany DM	4.13	3.93
Greece Dr	136.50	127.50
Hongkong \$	11.45	10.89
Italy Lit	245.00	233.00
Japan Yen	387.80	367.00
Netherlands Gld	4.63	4.41
Norway Kr	11.69	11.12
Portugal Esc	187.06	177.00
Spain Ptas	229.50	218.50
Sweden Kr	12.29	11.69
Switzerland Fr	3.35	3.18
USA \$	1.57	1.52
Yugoslavia Dnr	147.60	140.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as quoted by Barclay Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Roads

London and the South-east: A307: Petersham Road, Richmond, closed near Star and Garter Hill; diversions: avoid Richmond Bridge at peak times. A286/A285/A27: Heavy traffic because of Goodwood Race, N of Chichester. Extra traffic on Earls Court one-way system because of Royal Tournament.

Air travel warning

The Civil Aviation Authority warns air travellers not to carry dangerous goods in their luggage or hand baggage. Prohibited items include lighter fuel, butane gas containers, camping gas cylinders, and fireworks, all of which can be a hazard if carried on an aircraft.

Pollen forecast

	Pollen count	Peak times
Aberdeen	high	3 to 6 pm
Belfast	high	3 to 6 pm
Birmingham	high	3 to 6 pm
Bristol	high	3 to 6 pm
Cardiff	high	3 to 6 pm
Darlington	high	3 to 6 pm
Edinburgh	high	3 to 6 pm
Exeter	high	3 to 6 pm
Gloucester	high	3 to 6 pm
Leeds	high	3 to 6 pm
London	high	3 to 6 pm
Manchester	high	3 to 6 pm
Newcastle	high	3 to 6 pm
Nottingham	high	3 to 6 pm
Sheffield	high	3 to 6 pm
Southampton	high	3 to 6 pm
Sunderland	high	3 to 6 pm
Torquay	high	3 to 6 pm
Wolverhampton	high	3 to 6 pm
Wrexham	high	3 to 6 pm
York	high	3 to 6 pm

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Motions on code of local government audit practice for England and Wales.

Datapost service

Datapost, the Royal Mail's courier delivery service for urgent items, is now available to the Republic of Ireland. Documents and printed matter can be sent to the cities of Cork and Dublin and all areas of County Dublin, with delivery next day. Details from local head post offices or call the operator for Freephone Datapost.

London

Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 20C (70F); min 6 pm to 8 am, 15C (59F). Humidity: 60%. Wind: 10 to 15 mph. Rain: 0.1 in. Sun: 24 to 6 pm, 6.30 hr. Bar: sea level 7 pm, 1,024.4 millibars, rising.

Highest and lowest

Highest temp: Southampton, 29C (84F). Lowest temp: Lowestoft, 10C (50F). Rain: 1.2 in. Sun: 24 to 6 pm, 6.30 hr. Bar: sea level 7 pm, 1,024.4 millibars, rising.

Weather forecast

A ridge of high pressure will persist from Ireland to Scandinavia.
6 am to midnight
London, central S, SW England: Fog patches soon dispersing, mainly dry, bright or sunny intervals; wind E, moderate; max temp 24 to 26C (75 to 79F).
East Angles: Dry, sunny intervals, fog patches dispersing inland, persisting on some coasts; wind NE, light; max temp 23C (73F), cooler on coasts.
Midlands, E, NW, central N, NE England, Wales: Dry, sunny periods; wind variable, light; max temp 21 to 23C (70 to 73F).
Channel Islands: Rather cloudy, thundery showers, fog patches at times; wind NE, moderate; max temp 23C (73F).
Lake District, Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Bright or sunny intervals, mainly dry; wind W, light; max temp 20 to 22C (68 to 72F).
Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll: Rather cloudy, outbreaks of rain or drizzle; wind W, light; max temp 20 to 22C (68 to 72F).
NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Rather cloudy, outbreaks of rain or drizzle; wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 18C (64F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Mainly dry and warm, becoming cloudier in N with occasional rain.

Lighting-up time

London: 5.26 pm to 4.45 am
Bristol: 5.26 pm to 4.45 am
Edinburgh: 5.26 pm to 4.45 am
Manchester: 5.26 pm to 4.45 am
Petersburg: 5.26 pm to 4.45 am

Yesterday

	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humidity
Belfast	15.5	20	80	72
Birmingham	22.2	10	10	77
Bristol	22.2	10	10	77
Cardiff	22.2	10	10	77
Darlington	22.2	10	10	77
Edinburgh	22.2	10	10	77
Exeter	22.2	10	10	77
Gloucester	22.2	10	10	77
Leeds	22.2	10	10	77
London	22.2	10	10	77
Manchester	22.2	10	10	77
Newcastle	22.2	10	10	77
Nottingham	22.2	10	10	77
Sheffield	22.2	10	10	77
Southampton	22.2	10	10	77
Sunderland	22.2	10	10	77
Torquay	22.2	10	10	77
Wolverhampton	22.2	10	10	77
Wrexham	22.2	10	10	77
York	22.2	10	10	77

Abroad

	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Humidity
Aberdeen	15.5	20	80	72
Belfast	15.5	20	80	72
Birmingham	22.2	10	10	77
Bristol	22.2	10	10	77
Cardiff	22.2	10	10	77
Darlington	22.2	10	10	77
Edinburgh	22.2	10	10	77
Exeter	22.2	10	10	77
Gloucester	22.2	10	10	77
Leeds	22.2	10	10	77
London	22.2	10	10	77
Manchester	22.2	10	10	77
Newcastle	22.2	10	10	77
Nottingham	22.2	10	10	77
Sheffield	22.2	10	10	77
Southampton	22.2	10	10	77
Sunderland	22.2	10	10	77
Torquay	22.2	10	10	77
Wolverhampton	22.2	10	10	77
Wrexham	22.2	10	10	77
York	22.2	10	10	77

Abroad

MODAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; h, thunder.

High times

forecast

A ridge of high pressure will persist from Ireland to Scandinavia.

6 am to midnight

London, central S, SW England: Fog patches soon dispersing, mainly dry, bright or sunny intervals; wind E, moderate; max temp 24 to 26C (75 to 79F).

England: Rather cloudy at times.